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AGE OF CHIVALRY

Society is not as evil
as it is painted
Matthew Parris, page 18

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THE TIMES

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Defiant commander threatens to refuse release of further hostages

Serbs now in firing line, says Rifkind

By NICHOLAS WOOD AND JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

BRITAIN yesterday brushed aside a threat by the Bosnian Serbs to continue holding 260 UN hostages until Nato called off airstrikes, and warned them that they had "put themselves in the firing line". Douglas Hurd said the Bosnian Serbs appeared confused about their intentions after their commander, General Ratko Mladic said there would be no further releases unless he received assurances that Nato would not use its air power. One hundred and twenty-one hostages — including 11 Royal Welch Fusiliers — were freed on Friday and Serbia had hinted that the rest would also be allowed to go.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, also took a tough line, warning Radovan Karadzic and his followers that they had made a "very massive miscalculation" in taking hostages. Not only had they incurred the contempt of the world, but one of the consequences of their actions was the decision by allied nations to establish a rapid reaction force of up to 10,000 men to add military muscle on the ground.

"It is the first time in the history of the UN — over forty years — that UN commanders will have such a rapid deployment force, (and) the UK is the largest contributor to it," Mr Rifkind said as the first of the British contingent arrived in the Bosnian hills yesterday.

The establishment of the force — mostly manned by Britain, France and the Netherlands — was agreed in Paris on Saturday and President Chirac yesterday tele-



Rifkind: "UN remains even-handed in war"

phoned President Yeltsin about the decision. The two leaders agreed that a co-ordinated effort was required to end the war and Mr Yeltsin promised to put pressure on Serbia and Montenegro to try to find a political solution.

William Perry, the American Defence Secretary, has offered air power to protect the new force, including attack helicopters and AC-130 gunships, and he said this would "make the price of attacking UN troops very high". He also announced that America would use new unmanned "drone" spy planes to monitor Bosnian Serb movements and provide an "intelligence co-ordination cell".

Mr Rifkind insisted that the UN was remaining "even-handed" in the Bosnian war. "We are not going to be involved in that war either now or in the future," he told BBC television's *Breakfast with Frost* programme. "But so far as the particular position of the hostages is con-

cerned, the Bosnian Serbs inevitably have put themselves in the firing line so far as that is concerned. They will be treated in the way that is required to ensure the safe release of the hostages."

Mr Hurd said Britain's prime objective was to get the remaining hostages out. It also wanted to re-establish the UN's humanitarian operation and to work through Serbia's President Milosevic for a political settlement to the conflict.

But the Foreign Secretary admitted that sending the extra troops might not work, and that the UN might have to pull out — a withdrawal plan was almost complete and would be used if necessary.

He said: "The circumstances might turn wrong again, so that the UN simply could not do that job, in which case we would have to withdraw, the arms embargo would be lifted, the present uncertain peace — half peace, half war — would become a full war again. The war might spread."

The American ambassador to the UN also admitted that if the peacekeepers became unable to defend themselves, a withdrawal could become unavoidable. But Madeleine Albright said that if that happened: "We see a humanitarian disaster — refugees flowing out of the safe areas, hunger and all kinds of horrible things."

As she spoke, Serb forces were again pounding a western suburb of Sarajevo with shellfire, killing five people. British peacekeepers in Gorazde were also forced into their



A freed British hostage is helped from the plane at Zagreb airport at the weekend

bunkers by fierce fighting, and Serb troops launched an infantry, tank and mortar attack on Dutch UN positions at Srebrenica. All three towns are designated UN "safe areas".

In a further gesture of defiance, General Mladic refused to discuss the fate of an American F16 pilot who was shot down while on a routine

patrol on Friday. There is speculation that he may be dead, since the Bosnian Serbs have not produced him and US intelligence has received no signals from the homing beacon in his flying suit.

Most of 121 "blue helmets" released at the weekend were in the Croatian coastal town of Split yesterday. The troops are to be returned to their units in

the coming days, where battalion commanders will decide whether they should be given leave or returned to duty. It seems unlikely that the Serbs will allow the 11 freed Britons to return to Gorazde.

Soldiers freed, page 12
Extra muscle, page 13
Leading article, and
Letters, page 19

Senior advisers urge Major to defy Europe on single currency

By NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR is being urged by close advisers to come out clearly against a single European currency, it was disclosed last night, as Britain again found itself on a collision course with Brussels.

Jacques Santer, the President of the European Commission, paved the way for a series of bruising confrontations in the run-up to next year's summit on the future of the European Union by demanding an end to the national veto in key areas such as foreign and security policy.

Britain would not be losing its power, he said, but "sharing sovereignty" in the interests of greater European efficiency.

While senior ministers and angry Conservative Eurosceptics insisted that Britain would not compromise over the veto, influential sources disclosed that the Prime Minister was under pressure to adopt a far more sceptical position on Europe. He is being urged to declare that he would never recommend the adoption of a single European currency to the British people. He would back up this pledge with the promise of a referendum, if the idea should ever become a possibility, and make it clear he would campaign for its rejection.

The supporters of such a strategy, who include leading figures within the party hierarchy, say that with Mr Major's own position under threat from disaffected right-wingers, he has to take decisive action to head off a leadership challenge in the autumn.

"He has got to gamble. There is no easy road to salvation," one source said. "The votes tell me this argument is being put more forcibly and getting a better listening inside No 10."

Advocates of the more Eurosceptic line say it would help to unify the party, bringing leading figures such as Baroness Thatcher and Lord Tebbit firmly inside the fold, and wrong-foot the opposition parties.

However, other insiders predicted a further "tilt not lurch" in Mr Major's policy. They suggested that he would move closer to the sceptical position without risking a Cabinet walkout by figures such as Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary.

"He has not spent 4½ years painstakingly keeping the party together simply to do some

Brave new Europe

With Britain taking an ever more defensive approach, some officials sounded as if they were washing their hands of the Major Government in the belief that an election could solve their problems. Page 10

thing that would have people resigning from the Cabinet," one insider said. "There are other ways in which you could convey that it is most unlikely that the Conservatives would join a single currency in the next Parliament."

Mr Santer's intervention, during BBC Television's *Breakfast with Frost* programme, came 24 hours after the two-day meeting in Sicily — the first of many to prepare the ground for the intergovernmental conference — at which David Davis, the Minister for Europe, opposed greater centralisation within the EU and the extension of qualified majority voting.

Mr Santer also infuriated Lord Tebbit, who appeared on

Continued on page 2, col 1

School bus axe savings challenged

By BEN PRESTON

SCRAPPING free transport for thousands of grammar school pupils would save £1 million less than expected, a report obtained by *The Times* discloses.

Essex County Council has slashed estimates of savings offered by the Liberal Democrat and Labour proposals to just £637,000 over ten years.

The figures, which will be seen by councillors this week, have buoyed parents opposing what they see as a vindictive campaign against the county's eight grammar schools.

Simon Burns, Conservative MP for Chelmsford, has challenged Liberal Democrat leaders who had pledged to drop the scheme if savings were shown to be "trivial" to keep their word.

Assault denied, page 5

MP in road accident is urged to stand down

By JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

SIR NICHOLAS SCOTT, the Tory MP for Chelsea who was arrested last week after allegedly leaving the scene of a road accident, came under pressure from local Tories last night to resign at the next election.

They said the former Minister for the Disabled could decide not to fight for the new seat of Kensington and Chelsea when his constituency is merged with Kensington under forthcoming boundary changes.

Rupert Cadd, deputy chairman of the new Kensington and Chelsea Conservative Association, said local Tories were disappointed and shocked by the alleged incident in which a three-year-old boy was trapped between two cars.

"After this incident I would have thought it might be likely that Sir Nicholas might announce that he would be retiring," he said last night.

However, senior party figures and friends of Sir Nicholas said that the former minister still intended to stand for the seat. They said the criticism being levelled against him simply reflected the bitter competition for what is likely to be one of the safest Tory seats in the country.

Sir Nicholas's Volvo allegedly collided with a parked car in Sydney Street, central London, as he left a Tory garden party last Thursday. The parked car was shunted

forward and Thibault Perriard, who was in his buggy, was caught between two parked cars. He was unhurt but his father, Yves Perriard, and several other witnesses alleged that Sir Nicholas left the scene while the boy was still trapped.

Sir Nicholas, 61, was traced to a nearby address, breathalysed, arrested and lat-



Scott: one of the safest Conservative seats

er released on police bail. He will be interviewed by detectives at Chelsea police station next month.

Mr Perriard, who is Swiss, lives with his wife Annick and their two children in Chelsea. He demanded an apology from Sir Nicholas yesterday. He said a crowd had gathered as he tried to free his son, and people shouted for the driver of the car in the collision to

help. He said that a woman in her 50s who was with Sir Nicholas had called them "French scum", and said they were "stupid" to call the emergency services because the child was not hurt.

The woman with the driver refused to exchange names and addresses, and allegedly kept saying: "What are you worried about? The child's not dead — he's not even English."

Mr Cecil said: "I imagine that people in Chelsea will be very disappointed about the whole thing... He may realise now that the pendulum has swung against him. An incident like this will hardly help."

He said that Dudley Fishburn, MP for Kensington who is also competing for the new seat, could now be chosen without a contest.

However, if Sir Nicholas does stand down, other MPs are likely to throw their hats into the ring. "I imagine that Kensington and Chelsea will be one of the safest Conservative seats, if not the safest, in the country... but it would be ridiculous not to go for the best candidate possible," Mr Cecil added.

Sir Nicholas, whose home is in Battersea, — not far from the scene of the Chelsea incident — was believed to be staying in the country yesterday.

Bitter battle, page 8

England to take on Wallabies

England beat Western Samoa 44-22 in the rugby World Cup in Durban last night, and now go on to meet Australia in the quarter finals.

Ireland earlier knocked Wales out of the tournament with a one-point win that secured them a match against France in the next round.

An understrength New Zealand set a world record, beating Japan 145-17.

World Cup reports, pages 23, 26, 27

Cannabis grower freed

A 69-year-old champion flower grower has been ordered to leave his nursery after admitting allowing cannabis plants to flourish among his violas.

Richard Cawthorne was given a conditional discharge after telling Maidstone magistrates that he thought a tenant at his nursery was growing the drug legally under licence. Page 3

Call for company proxy vote reform

The GMB general union has called for a change in the law to prevent company directors using proxy votes from shareholders to back their own actions. It is also planning to take legal action against some companies over political donations. Page 44

Judges get lessons in gay etiquette

By FRANCES GIBBS, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

JUDGES are to be taught how to avoid comments and off-the-cuff remarks that may offend homosexuals as part of a "human awareness" training programme.

All novice judges are likely to have to attend a seminar in which they will be told how to address and describe homosexual people. They will also be advised of the need to restrain intrusive questioning about the sexuality of a witness, litigant or defendant, and they will be urged to restrict reporting of names and address to protect homosexual witnesses.

The proposals, being drawn up by a working party under Mr Justice Potter, are part of a bigger training exercise which also aims to stop offensive comments in rape or sexual offence cases. They build on a racial awareness programme, which is run for all full-time judges in England and Wales.

There has been some hostility among the circuit bench, where the training is seen as needless "political correctness". But the majority, including the most senior judges, are behind the measures.

Martin Bowley QC, the most senior openly-gay member of the Bar, said progress had been made in combating discrimination within the legal system, but it persisted "at the very highest levels".

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THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
EXCLUSIVE  END OF EMPIRE How Roosevelt and Stalin fooled Churchill: John Charnley on the start of the special relationship myth PLUS: Bernard Levin, Nigella Lawson, Dr Thomas Stuttaford's Medical Briefing, Law and Your Own Business - and, every day, how to win 20,000 air miles	FASHION Simple summer dressing - what to buy for your holiday wardrobe PLUS: Simon Jenkins, Alan Coren, Brenda Maddox on Media, and the Property pages - and a 24-page guide to antiques	FILMS <i>Kiss of Death</i> : convicts and gangsters clash in Hollywood's new thriller - and cricket correspondent Alan Lee previews England v West Indies PLUS: Janet Daley, William Rees-Mogg, Books, Travel News, Economic View and the Appointments section	POP Follow the trends with Britain's best music team: Caitlin Moran, Alan Jackson and David Sinclair	WEEKEND Four readers can win a free week's holiday a year for life Magazine Starting Jane MacQuitty's choice of the 100 best summer wines PLUS: Weekend, Car 95, Weekend Money and Vision, the 7-day guide to TV and radio

THE TIMES AT 20p YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO BE WITHOUT IT

Ministers believe £500m will spring mortgage trap

By NICHOLAS WOOD
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR ministers predicted yesterday that for about £500 million it would be possible to draw up a rescue package for more than a million homebuyers caught in the mortgage trap. One plan being considered is tax relief for all people with negative equity who decide to move.

John Major's Downing Street policy unit is leading attempts to draw up a package. One minister said: "We must get some help to people in mortgage misery. Homeowners are a big group and Labour want to befriend."

The Prime Minister instructed his advisers to review the plight of people saddled with negative equity in the wake of the drubbing the Conservatives suffered in the local elections last month. Tory MPs and ministers reported privately that dismay at the state of the housing market lay behind much of the middle-class flight to Labour and the Liberal Democrats.

Several options, some focused on helping those whose mortgages are bigger than the value of their properties, and others intended to give a general fillip to the market,

Morgan Grenfell, the City merchant bank, predicts that house prices will begin to rise again next year and begin to outstrip inflation from 1997.

The bank says housing is now undervalued and more affordable in relation to earnings than it has been in 25 years. But Morgan Grenfell's economists say that the price weakness will continue for the rest of the year due to negative equity and the squeeze on personal income from tax increases.

are under consideration. An announcement could come in the Budget in November. Ideas include tax relief for people with negative equity. The extent of their debt would be clear from their selling price and tax breaks could be given to help them to pay off their debt. A scheme designed to help all those with negative equity would be more difficult because it would require independent valuations and would be more expensive.

Stamp duty could be scrapped or suspended, to inject life into the property market. Such a move was attempted in 1992 but had little

effect. There could be tax breaks for first-time buyers. The tax relief on repayments made on the first £30,000 of a home loan has been cut from 25 per cent to 15 per cent over two years. This could revert to 20 or 25 per cent for first-time buyers.

Plans to restrict the income support safety net for homeowners who lose their jobs might be abandoned. From October, Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, wants new borrowers to take out private insurance to cover the first nine months of repayments should they become unemployed. His plans are opposed by the Council of Mortgage Lenders and growing numbers of Tories fear they will be another blow to confidence in the market.

Of the four options, extra help for first-time buyers seems the most likely to win the approval of the Chancellor as the Treasury comes under intense pressure.

A MORI poll for *The Mail on Sunday* found that 76 per cent of people wanted mortgage tax relief restored to its former level and 58 per cent thought that those with negative equity should be given tax concessions.

Leading article, page 19



John Edmonds

Labour faces rift on wages

By PHILIP BASSETT

LABOUR is facing further conflict with its trade union affiliates over a national minimum wage.

Proposals to be put by the Labour leadership to its National Policy Forum this week are understood to avoid mentioning a specific formula. John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB general union, said yesterday that there was a difference between what the Labour leadership wanted and the current policy supported by a range of unions, including his own and the TGWU transport workers.

Current Labour policy is for a minimum wage set at half the median level of male earnings. Conservative Party leaders argue that this cost up to two million jobs, while Tony Blair is maintaining his party's commitment to a minimum wage - but emphasising that it must be introduced flexibly.

Ministers to be questioned over loss of £40m at private hospital

By NIGEL WILLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

A COMMONS committee is to cross-examine government ministers and officials on the financial collapse of a show-piece private hospital after it emerged that none of the taxpayers' £40 million investment is likely to be returned.

When the Health Care International Hospital on Clydebank went into receivership last November, Ian Lang, the Scottish Secretary, claimed the loss to the public would be £15 million. However, at a meeting with the receivers last week, it was revealed that the Government was unlikely to recoup any of the £41.5 million owed.

The statement by Arthur Andersen showed that the hospital had lost £18.3 million in the six months to November, and that there were no personal guarantees from the hospital's American founders. None of the money from the Abu Dhabi investment agency that took over the business is available to pay off creditors.

The news has increased the pressure on Mr Lang, who, with his predecessor Malcolm Rifkind, endorsed the government funding of the project. George Robertson, the Shadow Scottish Secretary, said: "Putting taxpayers' money into a private project of this nature was ill conceived and it is coming back to haunt the Government. Ian Lang owes the taxpayer an explanation."

The National Audit Office, the watchdog of public expenditure, is preparing a memorandum on the full cost to the taxpayer. The all-party Commons Public Accounts Committee will question Mr Lang and officials from the Scottish Office later this month.

The Scottish Office had expected to recoup much of its investment in the 260-bed hospital and 150-room hotel by a business plan which envisaged the treatment of 6,000

overseas patients a year. Five months after the hospital opened in June last year, fewer than 50 beds were in use.

Among the questions MPs will want answered are:
 □ Why the hospital cost £180 million to build, almost double the going rate.
 □ What role ministers played in pushing through state funding against professional advice.

□ Why the Government and the Scottish Office failed to monitor the investment and did not see the disaster looming.

□ How British Aerospace came to put £8 million into the hospital in return for a defence contract with Abu Dhabi, whose Government owned 5 per cent of hospital shares.

The Government provided the hospital with £16 million in grants and £9 million in other finance. The rest of the debt is made up of other state subsidies and unpaid VAT, income tax and social security bills.

The Scottish Office said: "There is a difference between government grants and unpaid tax. We are waiting to see what the audit office says about the overall cost to the taxpayer."



Lang: endorsed funding

Queen 'anxious' over the closure of Barts

The Queen is said to have expressed concern about the closure of St Bartholomew's Hospital, which has Royal links dating from 1546. She spoke of her regret during a private conversation with Lesley Rees, the Dean of the Medical College.

The discussion, which will be disclosed in a new book, *Royal Bounty: The Making of a Welfare Monarchy*, by Dr Frank Prochaska, reportedly took place in 1992 at Buckingham Palace as the Government was finalising its closure plans. "It would be surprising if the Queen weren't concerned about Barts," said Dr Prochaska, honorary research fellow at the Royal Holloway College.

Clegg sentence review

Lee Clegg, 26, the paratrooper jailed for life in 1993 for murdering a passenger in a joyrider's car in West Belfast, will have his sentence reviewed tomorrow. The Northern Ireland Life Sentence Review Board could recommend his immediate release on licence from prison.

Tax on alcohol 'too low'

Taxes on alcohol should be raised at least to equal the social and economic costs caused by excessive drinking across the European Union, a report by the Institute of Alcohol Studies says. It puts the cost of dealing with problems stemming from abuse in Europe at over £500 billion a year.

Rare horses released

Four of the world's oldest breed of wild horse, which is extinct in its native Mongolia, will be released on a 100-acre site of special scientific interest near Farnborough, Hampshire. It is hoped the Przewalski's horses will control weeds to allow rare plants and insects to flourish.

Greysteel inmates moved

Loyalist terrorists responsible for the Greysteel pub massacre have been moved from the Maze Prison after a dispute with other loyalist inmates. Authorities feared trouble after the four men, with five others, objected to doves of peace being painted over UFF emblems in the jail.

Canterbury to charge

Admission charges start at Canterbury Cathedral today. Adults visiting on weekdays will be charged £2 and students and children £1 to offset losses. Cathedral officials say the move has been forced on them: visitors give an average 13p each, despite a sign requesting a £2 donation.

Jackpot unclaimed

Nobody won Saturday's National Lottery jackpot of about £8.7 million. Eleven tickets had five numbers plus the bonus number, and win £288,849 each. There were 517 tickets with five numbers (£3,841); 40,623 with four (£107) and 931,366 with three (£10). Winning numbers, page 22

Major faces new EU pressure

Continued from page 1

the same programme, by saying politicians should "train" people about the advantages of closer European ties. He also demanded a swift end to the British social chapter opt-out. His remarks as an NOP survey for the BBC showed that 49 per cent of Britons said they felt "not at all" European.

Lord Tebbit, the former Tory party chairman, said Mr Santer talked "about training people to understand the bene-

fits of efficiency. I talk about deluding people into giving up their right to self-government."

Lord Tebbit also rejected the dilution of the British veto. Turning to M Santer's insistence that Britain should quickly end its social chapter opt-out, Lord Tebbit said: "What does come through in Jacques Santer is the unconscious arrogance - the assumption that [all] this is inevitable, and that those who

stand in the way are just a bunch of silly old fuddy-duddies."

Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, who has been tipped as a future Foreign Secretary, insisted that Britain would not give ground on any veto. "That is a very fair summary. You do not feel comfortable with a Europe if you are having to change your own law without the consent of your own government," he said.

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Gardening judge pities naive expert in cannabis case

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

A CHAMPION flower grower, who taught the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince of Wales to shoot, was found with a flourishing crop of cannabis among his prize-winning violas.

Richard Cawthorne, 69, once gamekeeper to the Queen's equerry and deputy master of the household, the late Lord Plunket, knew what the neat rows of plants were but was shocked to discover they were growing illegally. He claimed he rented land at his nursery to a man who assured him he had a government licence to grow the drug.

Cawthorne walked smiling from Maidstone Crown Court with a conditional discharge and a few good-natured comments from the judge, but the incident has caused the nursery's owner, Lady Blythe, to give him notice to quit.

Tim Probert Wood, for the defence, said: "He has led a productive and interesting life. He was in the Commandos in 1943 and is a trained sniper, an expert shot. He trained members of the Royal Family, Prince Philip and Prince Charles, in shooting. He became a fur trapper in the Canadian Rockies and later gamekeeper to Lord Plunket, the Queen's equerry. We are

not dealing with some fly-by-night here, but a man of substance. It is a strange and unusual case. A man of his age should be sitting down enjoying the fruits of his labour."

Cawthorne was accused of producing a controlled drug and permitting his premises to be used for the purpose. He denied producing cannabis and the charge was left on file, but admitted allowing his nursery to be used.

Mark Heywood, for the prosecution, told how drug squad officers descended on Lower Daltons Nursery in Swanley Village, Kent, in June last year and found a plastic tunnel over seven rows of cannabis plants, irrigated by hose pipes. Mr Heywood said the partly grown crop could have yielded 200,000 grammes of herbal cannabis and been worth as much as £800,000.

Cawthorne was arrested but maintained he was not the grower. He claimed he had sub-let the land to a man called Eugene McEnroe who had assured him he had a Ministry of Agriculture licence to grow the cannabis.

Cawthorne told Judge Neligan that he grew violas and violettas which he exported to Europe and had won top

prizes at Royal Horticultural Society shows and the Chelsea Flower Show. "I am supposed to be the expert on violas," he said. The judge replied: "Modesty forbids you to say whether your reputation is correct."

Cawthorne said he did not ask to see Mr McEnroe's licence and did not have an address or telephone number for him. "I took his word for it," he said. "I did not assist with the plants but he asked me a lot about breeding. I told him that a government inspector came from time to time."

Said Judge Neligan: "Sometimes, sitting from day to day in these courts, one gets a fairly jaundiced view of life. Here comes this McEnroe man and says: 'I have got a licence to grow cannabis.' Did you believe him?"

Cawthorne, of Swanley, said that he did. Now he faces eviction from the nursery at the end of the year. "I understand Lady Blythe was informed of this offence and her lawyers gave me notice," he said.

Judge Neligan, who lists gardening as his hobby in *Who's Who*, said: "One sometimes comes across people who in some fields are experts and, blinded by their expertise, are naive to a degree which is breathtaking. If I conclude that this is one of those cases and what really happened is that an elderly expert gentleman has been taken for a ride, there could only be one answer in this case. Is a nod as good as a wink?"

Telling Cawthorne during Friday's hearing that he could not disbelieve his story, the judge imposed a conditional discharge and ordered him to forfeit £80 he had received as rent from Mr McEnroe. He said: "To think that you will commit another offence is so unlikely as to be a beggar belief."



Cawthorne admitted his nursery was used to grow cannabis but was amazed to find it was illegal

Car kills father carrying daughter

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

A FOUR-YEAR-OLD girl who was being carried on her father's shoulders when he was killed by a car was thrown clear and suffered only cuts and bruises.

Michael Rossiter, 38, was returning home from a park in Marsden, Tyne and Wear, on Saturday with his daughter Shannon Price and pet Alsatian when he ran into the road after the dog. He was struck by a car and catapulted into the path of another vehicle, which ran him over seconds later. He was dead before he reached South Tyneside General Hospital.

Police said yesterday that the child probably survived because she was being held up high. Acting Inspector David Ross, of Northumbria Police, said: "It looks as though Shannon was saved from injury because she was so high up and Mr Rossiter took the brunt of the impact instead."

The dog has not been traced, he added.

Mr Rossiter, who was due to marry Shannon's mother, Deborah Price, 31, in three weeks, lived in a flat only yards from the scene. He has two other children.

Ms Price was being comforted by relatives yesterday.

Eagle blasted at close range may have been tame

By A STAFF REPORTER

POLICE and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds are mystified by the slaughter of a golden eagle in the Scottish Highlands.

Yesterday, investigations began into how and why it came to be shot in Glen Clova, Tayside. The adult bird was found riddled with about 30 shotgun pellets on the Clova Estate by an RSPB warden.

"It is an appalling thing to do," an RSPB official said. "We believe it was shot at very close range which we find strange. Why somebody would pretty obviously kill a bird and then leave it lying is rather puzzling," said Dick, the organisation's investigation officer, said.

There is speculation that the bird might have been shot elsewhere and dumped on the estate. "It was not shot on its nest and there is no nest there. It was not an obvious place to find a shot eagle," Mr Dick added.

The factor of the neighbouring Airfield Estate is David Laird, chairman of the north-east region of Scottish Natural Heritage. "It is very bizarre. The opportunity to get close enough to an eagle to put 30 pellets in it must be very rare," Mr Laird said. "They normally give humans a wide berth

and this makes one wonder if it might have been a tame bird. There is no proof the eagle was shot there and there must be a suspicion that it wasn't," he added.

Experts do not understand why other eagles, which are territorial, should have allowed this bird into their area. Two local eyries were checked and the birds found to be "very much alive and in good health".

It is the first reported killing of a golden eagle this year and the RSPB, Scottish Natural Heritage and the wildlife officer of Tayside Police are working closely together in the investigation.

Although the bird was found on Tuesday, it was not X-rayed until Friday, when its cause of death was disclosed. "There are a number of questions to be addressed, not least why the killing was done in the height of the breeding season," Mr Laird said.

A number of eagles are illegally killed each year with four deaths recorded last year. The eagle population in Scotland is 450 known pairs, considered to be small for the geographical area. "Persecution is one of the reasons why they do not spread to lower areas," Mr Dick explained.

Purists take new dictionary to task for 'dreadful' words

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

THE new Concise Oxford English Dictionary is published next month amid claims that it has become a record of slang, junk culture, and political correctness.

The ninth edition, which introduces 7,000 new words, including a sweep of Americanisms and terms of popular slang, was condemned yesterday for its "dreadful and unnecessary" choices. Critics are incensed by the presence of such words as *angry*, meaning agitated and impatient, North American in origin and deriving from "to have ants in your pants". *Arvo*, Australian for afternoon, is also causing dismay. Clergymen, acquaintance rape and glass ceiling

are seen as a capitulation to political correctness, defined here as "the avoidance of forms of expression that exclude, marginalise or insult racial or cultural minorities". *Teleshopping*, *debugger* and *smilecard* also irritate.

Michael Plimbe, vice-chairman of the Queen's English Society, said the dictionary should have a separate loose-leaf section for most new terms. "I deplore the inclusion of some of these new words, many of which I feel have been put there on a whim. I understand that lexicographers must note the changes that affect our language but faddish terms could be recorded in a separate form. Many are used by young people and simply

won't stand the test of time." He added that by placing new words in the dictionary, lexicographers were effectively legitimising them.

An Oxford University Press spokesman said the dictionary was not prescriptive. "The purpose is to record language as it is and not how people would wish it to be. The Concise Oxford Dictionary is a document of current English and no word is included without evidence of established current usage," she said. "The editors do not make value judgments about words."

Inclusion is based on a search of publications. If a word is used in three separate publications then it is thought worthy of inclusion.

هكتان من العمل



Claire Barnes, right, deliberating on *Back Flip* by Allen Jones: "I wouldn't have it in my garden. In fact it's about the size of my garden"

The people's verdict on the summer hanging

By JOE JOSEPH

THE Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition, which opened yesterday, is art by the people, of the people, for the people. Selection is brutal: this year only 1,168 paintings and sculptures pleased the hanging judges from the 11,000 works submitted.

So did the choosers choose right on the people's behalf? Well, that depends. Eavesdroppers in the gallery yesterday could hear confident Brian Sewell-style verdicts loudly glorifying or cursing a painting in two short sentences, each containing six adjectives.

Or they could overhear opinions that the late Lord Clark might not have recognised as art criticism, but which Alan Bennett would.

"I don't generally like gold," said one of three women comparing two French landscapes by Frederick Gore, RA, "but I prefer the one on the left — even though it's got gold in it. The bit on the bottom of that one is a wishy-washy colour. He could have given it a little oomph."

The glory of the Summer Exhibition is that it is not dominated by Cork Street regulars: if everyone can be an artist, then every visitor can

become a critic. A woman in her late forties, after carefully weighing up the strong reds and oranges of the large and convivial dining table that dominates Julie Field's *Supper*, told her husband: "Hazel used to have a table that big. Mind you, she never used it. Never used to cook. Not for that many people, at any rate."

"That's a copy of something or other," one self-confident eye said to an admiring acolyte. "You could turn out five of those a week ... Oh, I've seen the house in this picture before. But why have they put it under glass? I mean, it's just been varnished, you

can tell ... What you need to get a work hung in here is a pumpkin or melon cut in half, a couple of apples, an orange and a couple of kitchen blades ..."

It's the unbuttoned mood that makes the summer show so refreshing: more Epsom Derby than Royal Ascot. "That's definitely my favourite so far," an elderly man said enthusiastically about Mark Shepherd's *Fancy Bringing That Thing On The Tube*. "It's beautifully painted, it's got humour, and it's got Christ in it. On the Tube. With his crucifix." Brian Sewell would have fainted.



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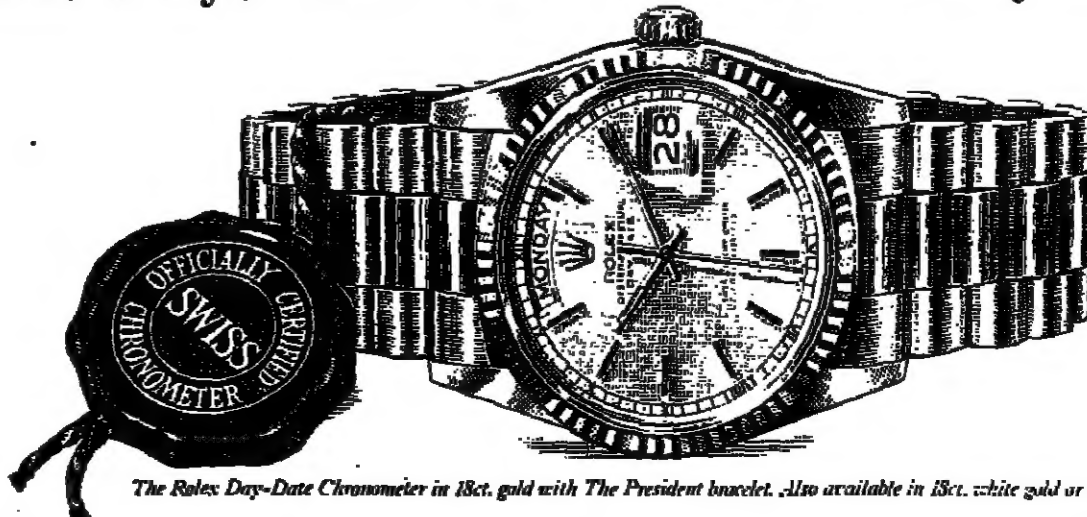
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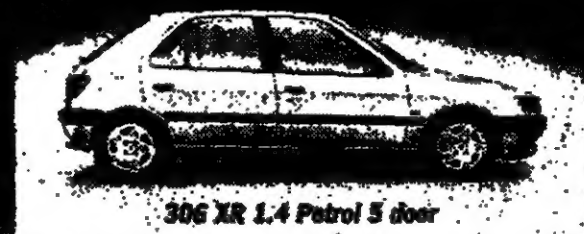
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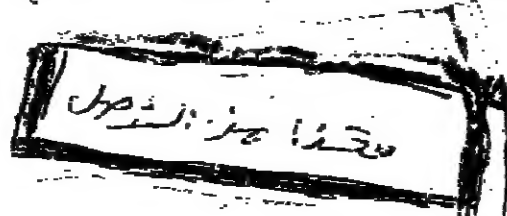
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Grammar schools accuse Essex County Council of betraying principle of free state education

End of travel concessions could cost parents £1,000

By BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

PARENTS will have to pay up to £1,000 a year for their children to travel to school if Essex County Council proceeds with plans to charge new grammar school entrants next year.

The council's Education Committee will debate next Monday whether to cut transport concessions for children who live more than three miles from their chosen selected school. The final decision is expected to be taken by the full council, which is controlled by a Liberal Democrat and Labour coalition, next month.

The grammar schools believe the proposals mark the start of a campaign to end selective education in Essex. They argue that the changes would affect children from poorer families hardest and effectively break the principle of free state education.

A report of the council's school transport panel obtained by *The Times* shows that the estimated savings

have been reduced to £637,000 over 10 years — £1 million less than expected. Initial estimates of savings made by charging for transport to four schools in Southend and two each in Chelmsford and Colchester were last month reduced from £1.6 million to £1.3 million. Officials accepted that some pupils who would have gone to grammars would still be entitled to free transport to their nearest school.

But of the £1.3 million, the officials calculated, only £637,000 would be available as savings to the education budget. The remainder would revert directly to secondary schools, most of which have opted out of the council's control, under the common funding that governs school finance in Essex. The report shows that just £124,000 would be saved in the first year, with the total not exceeding £500,000 until the next century.

Bernice McCabe, headmis-

triss of Chelmsford County High School for Girls, said the projections showed that the annual savings would be trivial in comparison with those the council had hoped for. She said: "The question now is whether Liberal Democrat councillors have the political courage to admit they acted hastily and that the potential savings were exaggerated."

Mrs McCabe said a consultation exercise had shown that parents were overwhelmingly hostile to the plans. She said such strong feelings would not go away and she invited the council to consult the parents of primary schoolchildren who would be directly affected by the scheme.

Derek Hardy, the Liberal Democrat chairman of the Education Committee, said his party was not hostile to selective schools. He maintained the transport proposals offered worthwhile savings. He insisted that the savings would total £1.3 million even

though half of that sum would revert directly to schools and be outside the control of the Education Committee. He said: "We are in the business of putting savings into schools and maintaining their purchasing power."

Mr Hardy blamed a tough local government settlement and the Government's refusal to fund fully the teachers' pay increase for the financial squeeze. That forced his committee to make "many uncomfortable decisions" as it had to find savings of £6.6 million.

He said: "We are looking at all discretionary areas of our budget. We have already had to cancel about 2,000 discretionary awards for mature students to make an immediate saving of more than £400,000. The youth service, adult education as well as our flagship policy of nursery education are all facing cuts."

School bus row, page 1
Education, page 37



Dr Edward Crunden, the Liberal Democrat vice-chairman of education, supports the withdrawal of free travel

Lib-Dems deny cuts presage assault on selective system

The majority of Essex councillors behind the withdrawal of free transport themselves attended independent or selective schools. Dominic Kennedy reports

MOST of the Liberal Democrat and Labour councillors who voted to end free transport for grammar school children in one of Britain's biggest education authorities went to selective or independent schools themselves.

The majority also allowed at least one of their children to attend a selective or fee-paying school.

The proposal to withdraw free transport from children travelling to grammar schools in Essex has infuriated local people. One councillor, who has received 254 letters of protest and none in favour, said his postbag was typical.

The idea surfaced when Essex County Council began looking for cuts, supposedly to pay for the teachers' pay rise. The little-known education transport panel, which is made up of nine councillors and a Church representative, was asked to look for savings.

The usual duties of this working party involve walking along busy country lanes or through unlit fields to decree whether they are dangerous enough that children should be given free school transport to avoid the perils of the journey.

Essex is a sprawling, rural county whose eight grammar schools are all concentrated in the towns of Southend, Colchester and Chelmsford. This means that many of the county's brightest children face long daily journeys costing Essex council a total of £1.6 million a year. Some hamlets are so remote that the authority has to provide taxis to drive pupils to the nearest bus stop.

If the cuts are approved, parents will either have to find the money for transport or send their children to a comprehensive.

Pupils whose families receive Income Support or Family Credit are the only exceptions: they will still get free transport.

The panel debated the policy behind closed doors with the Liberal Democrats and Labour in favour of it, while the Conservatives voted to keep free transport. The recommendation will be considered by the education committee next Monday.

The Liberal Democrat chairman of the panel is Albert Smulian, 74, a businessman who was educated at the independent University College School in Hampstead, northwest London. He sent both his children to selective grammar schools. One went on to Cambridge University, took a doctorate and became a biochemist.

Mr Smulian said: "There has been so much said in the press, especially a *Times* leader, that this was a vindictive attack on the grammar schools. That's total nonsense because the only things we can save money on are the discretionary services."

Pat Bolger OBE, 76, a Labour councillor and retired

headmaster, pointed out that there had been no alternative to selective education when he and most of his children were educated. However, his youngest went to a comprehensive after the system was introduced in the 1960s.

Rene Morris, 78, a Labour leftwinger and member of the Child Poverty Action Group, said that her oldest daughter had passed the eleven-plus and had a grammar-type schooling. Her youngest went to comprehensive. Mrs Morris used to declare a non-pecuniary interest when Colchester Royal Grammar School — one of those affected by the proposed cuts — was discussed in the council chamber: a younger member of her family was until recently a pupil there.

Edgar Davis, 69, another Liberal Democrat, was a London grammar school boy whose class was evacuated en masse during the war to Beaumont College where he enjoyed the use of the playing fields, swimming pool and rowing. He went on to become headmaster of a comprehensive school.

Mr Davis's oldest child began secondary education at a selective school but his other children went to comprehensive schools.

Keith White, 45, a Liberal Democrat who works as a translator and who was educated at a comprehensive, will be sending his daughter to a grant-maintained comprehensive as all the secondary schools in his area have opted out of local education authority control.

Joan Lyon MBE, 72, a veteran Labour councillor, allowed her son to be educated at Forest, a public school, and her grandchildren are at prep school.

The vice-chairman of education on the hung council is Edward Crunden, 63, a Liberal Democrat, who failed his eleven-plus, but whose parents, who were not well-off, made financial sacrifices to pay for him to go to grammar school. He left Colchester Royal Grammar School aged 16 with a brace of O levels. He went on to receive a doctorate in science and became a high-powered education adviser for Unesco working abroad while his children went to private boarding schools. Dr Crunden defends the policy of withdrawing free transport from grammar schools.

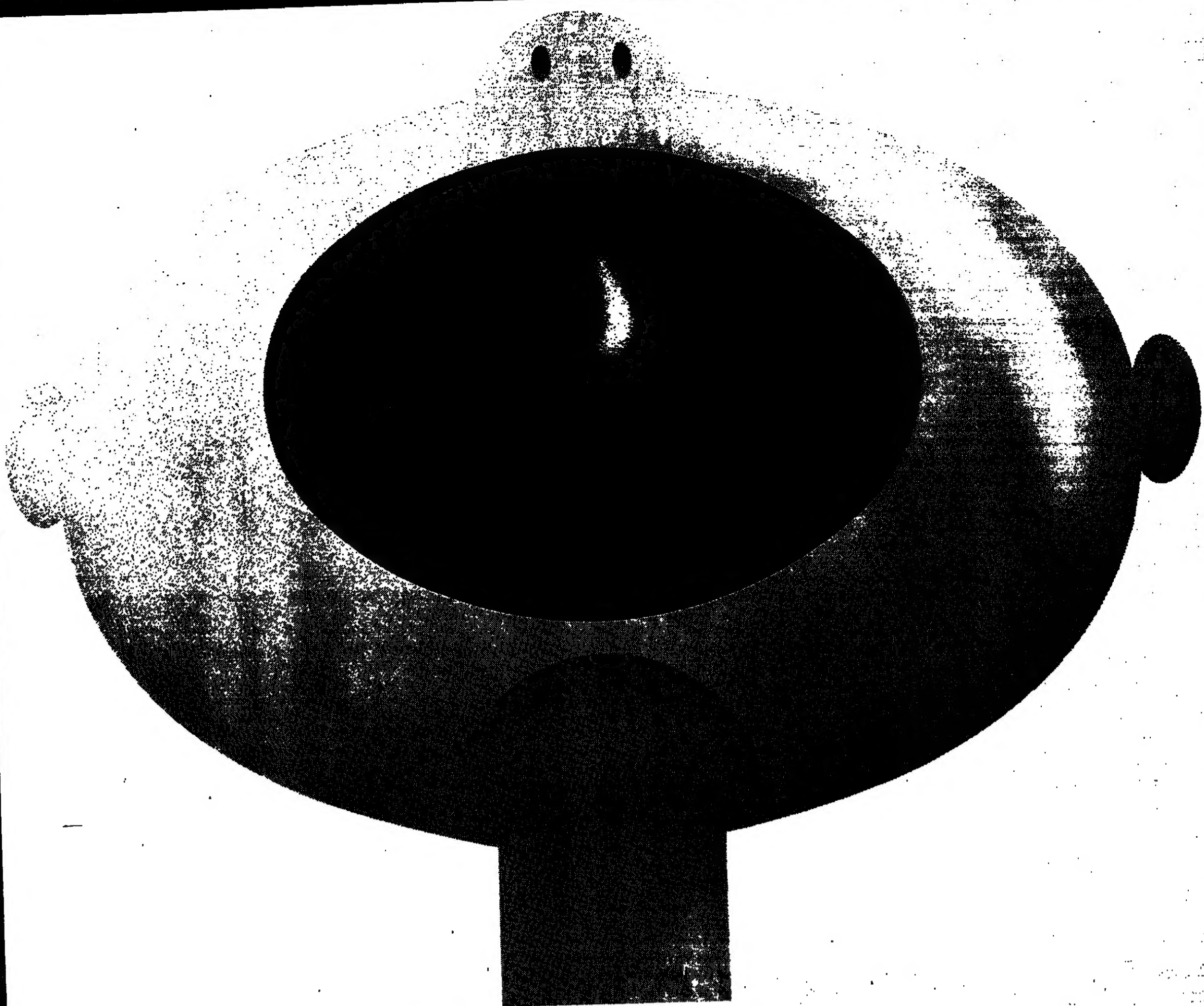
So does the education chairman Derek Hardy, 66, a Liberal Democrat who attended a selective school. Mr Hardy's children passed the eleven-plus but he sent them to a comprehensive to avoid a long journey to grammar school. Mr Hardy cited the case of one Essex child he says takes a taxi, three trains and a bus to school. "You have to make your own mind up whether a parent is right or wrong to inflict that on a pupil."

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Rural use trans meant f

Council censured over grant injustice

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BY MICHAEL HORNSEY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

Because the supply of conventional "street" drugs, such as cannabis, heroin and cocaine, is less reliable in country areas, drug-users are experimenting with substances that are more readily to hand. These include azaperone, a tranquilliser for pigs, ketamine, a veterinary anaesthetic and painkiller, and magic mushrooms, which grow wild but which can easily be confused with poisonous varieties. There is even anecdotal evidence, the maga-

It is not uncommon, according to Mr Dean, for farmers to treat themselves with animal

The biggest danger for rural drug-takers, the magazine says, is the threat of infection with the HIV virus through sharing hypodermic needles.

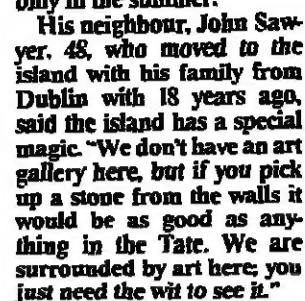
Despite the drawbacks, locals are advertising for new families to settle on Cape Clear, Ireland's most southerly island, off the coast of Co Cork. Its population has halved in the past 30 years to 150, and islanders fear that unless they reverse the decline they will lose essential services such as the daily ferry to the mainland and their primary school.



The Cape Co-Op estimates that the three-mile-long island needs 200 permanent residents to secure services and to fend off prying bureaucrats from the mainland eager to cut costs. So, spurred by the local priest, the Co-op has applied to

Ireland's Rural Resettlement Agency to find new families to move to the Cape. Life centres around the daily ferry service from Baltimore on the Irish mainland. Almost the entire population turns out as the boat, laden with post, food and, sometimes, cattle, docks in the small harbour. Islanders, who mostly speak Irish, load up their battered cars

Locals are staunchly proud of their island. Ed Harper, 46, moved from Manchester with his wife in 1979 after falling in love with the island on holiday. He has been blind since childhood, but can "sense the beauty". He farms goats on a bleak hillside, but he will

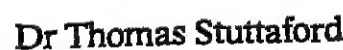


However, Father Jeremiah Cremin, the island's priest, said that prospective settlers would have to think hard before moving from the mainland. "The island is isolated at the best of times," he said. "If you can't take the rough with the smooth you have to leave."

□ A law brought in to make inefficient Labour councils sell empty homes has been used against the Defence Ministry to make it surrender some of its 12,000 empty properties. The Empty Homes Agency exploited the legislation to make the ministry sell 142 properties in Plymouth.

Before the service one of the opponents, the Rev Bruce Gillingham of St Clements Church, Oxford, said: "It would have been better to hear a Muslim speaker in a neutral venue. A cathedral is a place for Christians to preach the gospel of Christ."

DEPOSIT



The standard operation to give the patient the appearance of a larger penis involves dividing the sus-

Contrary to popular teaching, size does matter; but it seems that too large can be as problematic as too small. About 15 years ago, prostitutes who attended one of the largest London genito-urinary medical clinics were asked their opinion. Prostitutes, it was thought, would not allow emotional involvement to influence their views, but would have considerable experience. They voted for average size.

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Boundary Commission proposals leave Government facing loss of up to 20 seats

Changes pitch MPs into bitter battle for new constituencies

By JAMES LANDALE

TORY party chiefs are bracing themselves for a summer of bitter infighting as MPs squabble between themselves for new constituencies laid down by the Boundary Commissions.

Key seats held by Tory ministers and senior MPs are set to become marginal or even disappear under the commissions' recommendations for the next general election.

Many other Tories, however, whose seats are disappearing, will have to fight reselection battles with friends and colleagues for the chance to stay in Parliament.

Every ten to 15 years, the Boundary Commissions for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland redraw parliamentary boundaries to allow for population shifts. Seats with large electorates are trimmed or scrapped, while smaller seats are topped up to about 69,000 voters.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, has been considering the commissions' reports since April and is expected to put the proposals before Parliament this week. Although the Tories will gain a few seats across the country, in many areas Tory seats will be cut under the Boundary Commissions' recommendations.

With too many MPs chasing too few seats, many Tories expect the battles to be bloody when the associations begin the selection process after "vesting day" — when new local organisations are formally recognised by the national party. "It's a myth that Central Office fixes these things," one threatened senior minister said. "Every person is on their own."

Dame Angela Rumbold, the deputy party chairman who masterminded the Tories' campaign for boundary changes, agreed that the choice of candidate was a matter for the local Tory association but denied that any MPs would lose out. "I have plenty of new seats and retiring seats to cover people who might be in difficulty," she said. However, the number of spare seats will be cut by former ministers who are

REDRAWING THE POLITICAL MAP

Every ten to 15 years, the four Boundary Commissions of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland re-examine parliamentary constituencies to redress any imbalances caused by movements of population. Their aim is to even out the size of constituencies, working to a target in England at least of 69,231 voters per seat. However, there is growing concern about the way new boundaries are drawn up, and later this month academics, psephologists and experts from the political parties will attend a conference at Oxford University to re-examine the role of the commissions.

Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, is chairman of each commission, but the work is done by a deputy chairman, normally a High Court judge, and two commissioners, who tend to be barristers or senior local government figures. As such, the commissions are politically neutral. However, all parties in a first-past-the-post system are affected if political boundaries are redrawn. As seats take on or shed voters, their political make-up alters constituencies that were once safe become marginal or even change allegiance.

After the commissions make their recommendations, inquiries are held before independent barristers. The Home Secretary then considers the final proposals: although he has the power to modify the report, this is rarely done. The report is laid before Parliament as an Order in Council, a statutory instrument which MPs can accept or reject but not alter, and the new boundaries come into effect at the next general election. Some 450 seats are expected to be revised. Eight new seats — five in England, two in Wales and one in Northern Ireland — will be created.

looking for seats, including Francis Maude, John Maples, and Michael Fallon, who lost their seats in 1992.

As a result, some MPs will have to fight selection battles with colleagues — especially in London, where the Tories have lost seven seats — because the commission has been allowed for the first time to cross borough boundaries to create larger seats.

David Congdon (Croydon NE) will have to compete with fellow Tory, Sir Paul Beresford, the junior environment minister, for the new Croydon Central seat. Mr Congdon said: "We are both very clear that we have got to have a contest. It is unavoidable."

David Evennett (Erit and Crayford), and Cyril Townsend (Bexleyheath), will have to fight over the new Bexleyheath and Crayford seat southeast of London. "It will be a fight between the two of us," Mr Evennett said. "I won't challenge anyone else."

Sir Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister and MP for the neighbouring seat of Old Bexley and Sidcup, has made clear that even at the age of 79, he will not retire to provide one of the MPs with a seat. Sir Nicholas Scott, former Minister for the Disabled and MP for Chelsea, is facing a head-to-head battle

with Dudley Fishburn (Kensington), when their seats are merged to form the new Kensington and Chelsea constituency.

Although Sir Nicholas is under pressure to resign following his arrest last week after being involved in a car accident, he made clear before the incident that he was not going to retire. Norman Lamont, the former Chancellor, and James Arbuthnot, the junior Social Security minister, have also been tipped to stand for what will be one of the safest Tory seats in the country.

Four Tory seats will be squeezed into three in Barnet, north London. Sydney Chapman (Chipping Barnet), and Sir John Gort (Hendon North), appear to be safe. But John Marshall, whose Hendon South seat will disappear, faces a contest with Hartley Booth (Finchley), for the new Finchley and Golders Green constituency. "I am too young to retire," Mr Marshall said.

In the West Midlands, Eric Forth, the Education Minister and MP for Mid Worcestershire, could face a strong battle from Peter Luff, whose neighbouring seat of Worcester goes marginal. Under the commission's recommendations, Mid Worcestershire becomes very safe: it sheds some Labour-dominated urban

wards to the new seat of Redditch and takes Tory rural wards from Mr Luff's seat.

On the South Coast, Gary Streeter, MP for Plymouth Sutton, could face a challenge from Dame Janet Fookes, MP for Plymouth Drake. Confusingly, Dame Janet's seat is renamed Plymouth Sutton and becomes marginal after taking on some Labour urban wards from Mr Streeter. His seat is renamed South West Devon and takes on some rural Tory seats.

A string of ministers are also affected. Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister, whose Crawley seat loses some key wards and moves marginal, could move to the safe seat of Horsham, following the retirement of Sir Peter Hordern.

Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, whose St Albans moves marginal, could take a look at the new safe seat of Hitchen and Harpenden. Stephen Dorrell, the Heritage Secretary, whose Loughborough seat also becomes marginal could head for the new and safer Charnwood seat.

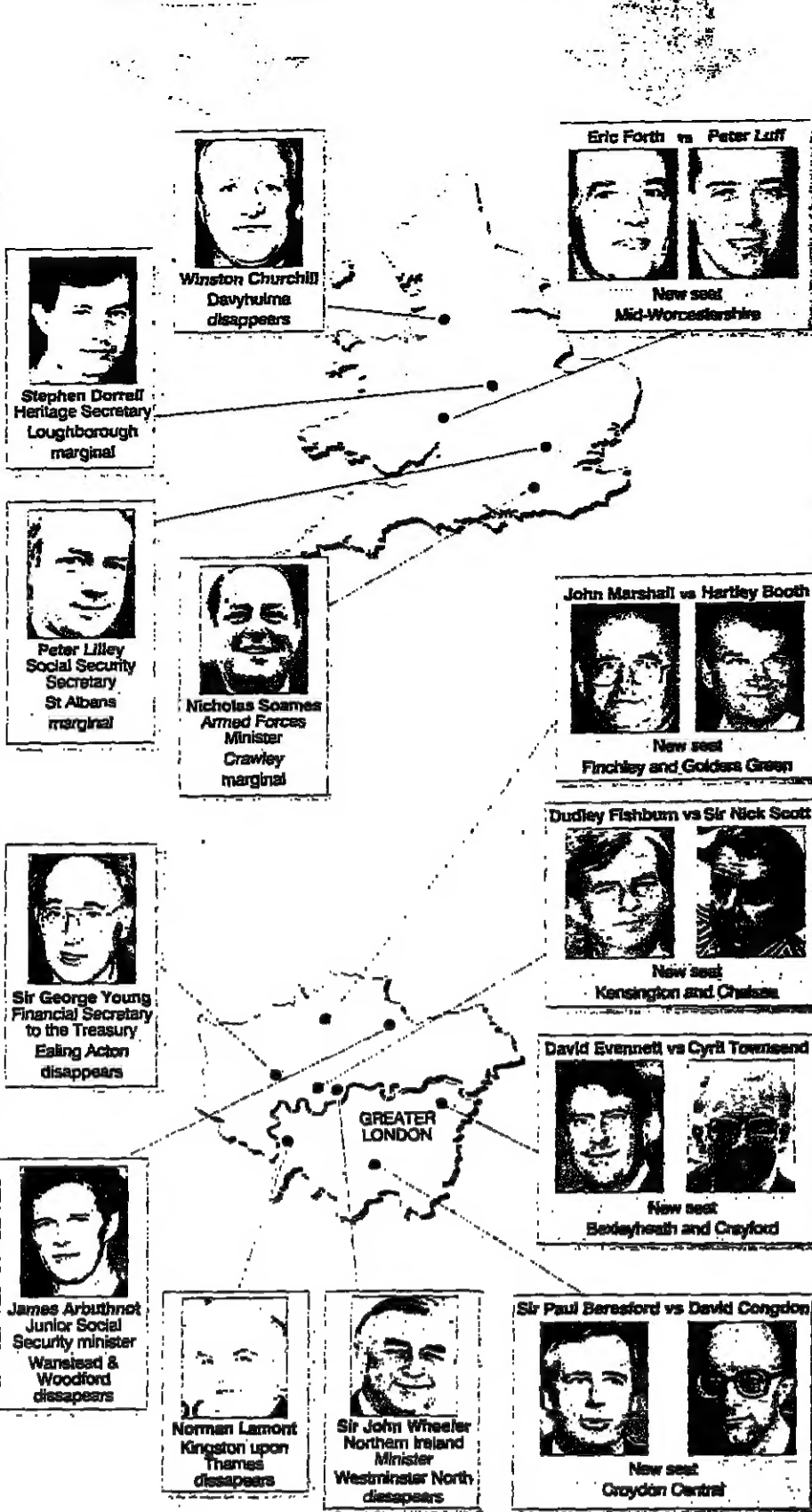
In London, Sir George Young, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, whose Ealing Acton seat disappears into the new Labour seat of Ealing, Acton and Shepherd's Bush, could be looking at Maidenhead. Sir John Wheeler, the Northern Ireland minister, whose Westminster North seat also disappears into the new seat of Regent's Park and Kensington North, is likely to seek re-election elsewhere. Although Peter Brooke's City of London and Westminster South seat takes some of Sir John's wards, Sir John denies that he will fight a reselection battle with Mr Brooke. "Only if he retired would I go for his seat," he said.

In Slough, John Watts, the Transport Minister, faces a difficult choice. Although his seat remains, in effect, unchanged, his majority is just 514. The neighbouring seat of Windsor and Maidenhead is being split and the Windsor ramp would be an attractive safe seat. However, Michael Trend, the sitting MP, could choose to stay in Windsor, and not Maidenhead, thwarting any hopes Mr Watts might have. Mr Watts says it is his intention to stay in Slough "until further notice", possibly to capitalise on Labour's disarray in the seat over a women-only shortlist.

James Arbuthnot, the ju-

TORY MPS AND MINISTERS UNDER THREAT

TORY MPS FIGHTING OVER ONE SEAT



nior Social Security minister, says his Wandsworth and Woodford seat is divided in three parts "like Gaul". Although the wards are shared among neighbouring constituencies, Mr Arbuthnot is unlikely to fight for any seats near by, and has been tipped for Southend. "I don't think it would be right for me to be particularly choosy," he said.

Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, faces little change in his Peterborough seat. But with a majority

of just 5,000, he could be tempted by the new and very safe Cambridgeshire North West seat. Norman Lamont, the former Chancellor, whose Kingston upon Thames seat disappears, is said to be looking at two new seats, the Vale of York and Tewkesbury. Ironically, Jeremy Huntley, the Tory party chairman, gains from this as several Tory wards are added to his new Richmond Park seat.

In Manchester, Winston Churchill's Davyhulme seat

disappears. Although it had been thought he might try for Altrincham and Sale, following the retirement of Sir Fergus Montgomery, he has not put his name forward. He might instead try for Streteford, following the departure of Labour's Tony Lloyd. Keith Mass's Wyre seat also disappears. However, if the 70-year-old Dame Elaine Kellett-Bowman, MP for Lancaster, retires, he could try for the new Wyre and Lancaster seat.

Squabbling left over-confident Tories without seats when the music stopped

As Tories fought each other for territory and members, Labour imposed discipline in the ranks and reversed an expected deficit of 20 seats, James Landale reports

LABOUR's victory in the "battle of boundaries" was the result of a determined, nationally co-ordinated campaign, fought against a Tory party hampered by poor central direction and squabbling at local level.

When the Boundary Commissions began their work in 1992, the Tories were expected to win more than 20 extra seats to reflect the population shift from Labour-supporting urban areas to the Tory shires. Now psephologists predict that the Tories will get between just five and ten extra seats, leaving them under-represented in the shires.

New Tory voters who have moved to the provinces will be soaked up by existing seats because not enough new seats have been created. Nationally, it means more voters are needed to elect a Tory than a Labour MP. Some experts believe this imbalance means that if both parties won the same number of votes, Labour could have as many as 25 more seats than the Tories.

Labour has worked hard to turn the tables. Strict discipline has meant disputes among MPs and constituency

parties have been kept to a minimum and many inquiries have accepted Labour's proposals. "Potential internal problems had generally been anticipated and neutralised before consensus meetings," one Labour memo said.

The Tories, in contrast, have suffered from local divisions and a lack of central organisation. "There wasn't a sense of direction in Central Office and from the then chairman, Norman Fowler," one senior Tory said. The belief that 20 new seats would be won made some Tory associations complacent and more prepared to ignore Central Office and fight among each other for territory and membership numbers. The number of Tory agents laid off to pay for post-1992 election debts added to the disarray.

Dame Angela Rumbold, deputy Tory party chairman,

who has run their boundaries campaign, condemns the distribution of seats under the new constituencies as "disproportionate out of proportion", but denies there was a lack of leadership in the party's campaign. Local associations, she says, were given "some very determined and well-thought out leadership and advice". She concedes, however, that discipline was a great advantage to Labour. "Unlike the Labour Party, we cannot impose anything. We simply can't tell them what to do, whereas the Labour Party enforced its view right from the beginning," she said. In some cases, Tories had been their own worst enemies: "There were one or two associations who didn't help themselves at all by fighting on their own ground rather than following a more measured national party line."

Not surprisingly, David

Gardner, the Labour Party official who has fought a well organised campaign at public inquiries up and down the country over the past few years, denies there is an imbalance. "The constituencies are in no way biased towards Labour," he said.

The chief mechanism through which Labour has gained is through the manner in which the new shire seats have been drawn up. Rural Tory seats often form what are known as "sandwiches", two seats which mix Labour-dominated urban centres between two Tory-supporting rural areas. However, when creating a new seat to allow for population growth, the Boundary Commissions have recognised the need for self-standing town constituencies and used the urban centre as the new seat's nucleus.

The outcome is known as a "doughnut", say, one safe Tory seat and one Tory marginal surrounding a new Labour, urban stronghold. The net result is the same number of Tory seats as before and a Labour gain. Even Mr Gardner accepts this was "certainly not unhelpful".

Labour faces some losses in cities

ALTHOUGH Labour has done rather well out of the Boundary Commissions' reforms, keeping the Tory seats created down to single figures, it does face some losses (James Landale writes).

Birmingham's Sparkbrook, Roy Hattersley's seat, will be merged with Small Heath. Roger Goddard's current seat, after allegations of malpractice among Labour supporters during the selection process, the local party has been suspended during an inquiry.

In Newham, east London, four Labour seats are being squeezed into three. Tony Banks (Newham North West) and Stephen Timmins (Newham North East) have been selected for new seats, respectively West Ham and East Ham. But Nigel Searing, whose Newham South seat disappears, is challenging Mervyn Gordon (Bow and Poplar) for the new seat of Poplar and Canning Town.

Ms Gordon, 71, who has represented the area for eight years and doubled her majority at the last election, said she did not like having to compete with a fellow MP. "I respect Nigel a great deal," she said. "It is an awful situation to be put in. I don't like it one bit."

One MP said: "It looks like Nigel will be the loser."

Mike Gapes, MP for Ufford South, with a majority of just 402, has been re-elected but will have a struggle to retain his seat, which remains on a knife-edge under the commission's recommendations.

In south London, Tessa Jowell, MP for Dulwich, has been selected for the new seat of Dulwich Norwood, which takes in John Fraser's Norwood seat. He now faces a head-to-head fight with Keith Hill for Streatham.

Roger Berry has been re-elected for Bristol Kingswood, which becomes a Tory marginal.

Bryan Davies's seat in Oldham Central and Royton disappears, as does Mike Watson's Glasgow Central.

For the Liberal Democrats, Malcolm Bruce faces a tough fight for his Scottish seat of Gordon, which loses some key voters and gains Tory wards. "It is not a safe Tory seat," he said. "It would properly be described as a Tory/Liberal Democrat marginal."

David Alton's Mossley Hill in Liverpool disappears; he could fight again but might stand down after 16 years at Westminster.

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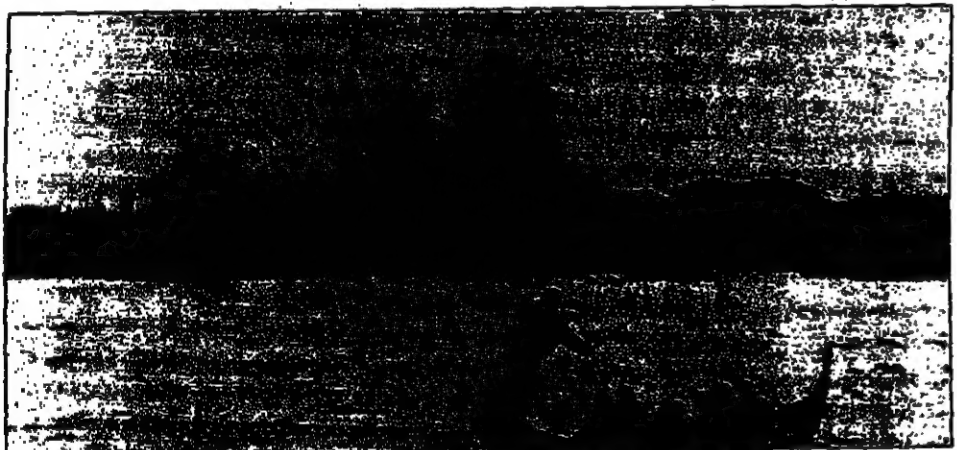
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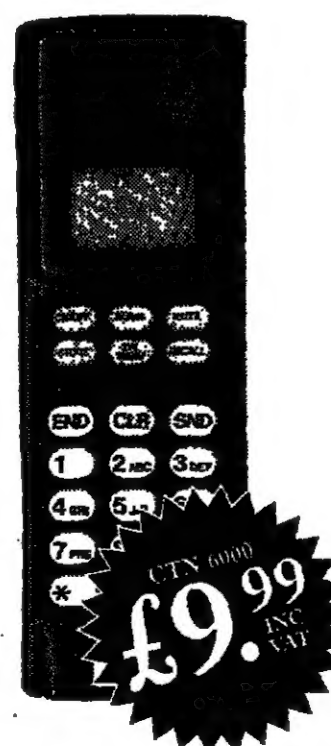
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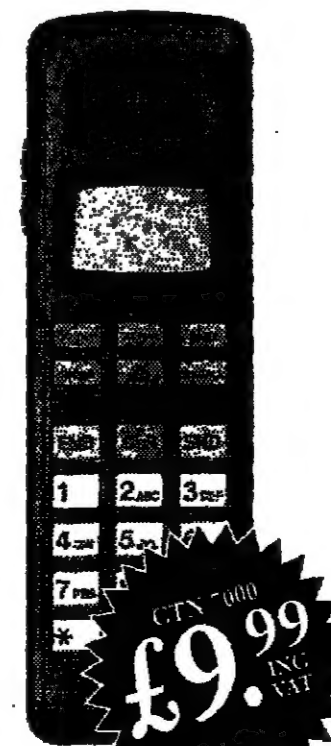
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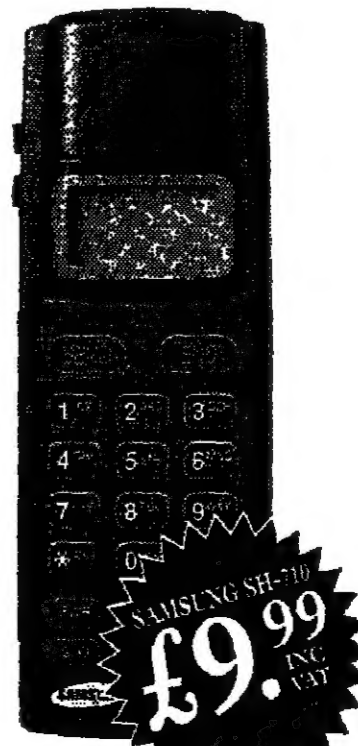
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Muti turns pianist to save opera

La Scala strikers ready for act two

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

MUSICIANS at La Scala threatened further disruption yesterday after Riccardo Muti, the director, coolly foiled an orchestra strike at the Milan opera house by accompanying singers alone on a piano in a production of *La Traviata*.

Signor Muti and Tiziana Fabbri, who played Violetta in the Verdi production, received a tumultuous ovation from the audience, which included opera buffs who had paid the equivalent of £9,000 for a box to watch the performance on Friday night. It was the first rendering of *La Traviata* to be staged at La Scala in 25 years.

Sandro Malatesta, a trumpet player and the secretary of the Independent Federation of Entertainment Workers, said the 30 union members and 50 other strikers in the 135-piece orchestra had given 48 hours' notice of their action. But Carlo Fontana, La Scala's director, decided to call their bluff by allowing ticket hold-

ers to take their seats. When Signor Fontana appeared on stage to confirm the strike, irate spectators began hurling abuse at the musicians, screaming "*Ladri, buffoni, cacciati via tutti*" (thieves, clowns, sack the lot of them).

Signor Muti then proceeded to calm and enchant the public and singers alike with his defiant virtuoso piano recital. "On the stage by the piano, I felt guided and dragged forward by Muti," said Signora Fabbri. "I felt the exceptional nature of the evening; it was as if I were breathing with Muti. I abandoned myself and gave everything. The public understood. They applauded me."

Alfredo Vargas, the Mexican tenor who sang the part of Alfredo, said: "The image of Italy was at stake. I was truly upset by those protests. However, it ended well. If the maestro Muti had not done something, I would have come out and sung 'O sole mio'."

Signor Muti called for reconciliation between management and musicians to safeguard the future of the opera house. "We all lost: there were no winners," he said. "It was one of the saddest evenings of Italian musical life. Last night I did not sleep a wink. I passed hours and hours of profound sadness."

Stefano Curci, 31, the French horn player and union spokesman, said the orchestra would stage strikes at other key dates in La Scala's programme, including a performance of *Falstaff*, which Signor Muti is hoping to direct on Wednesday night, and *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* on July 1, unless the musicians are given a pay rise. "We are fed up. We can't take any more... we earn less than a plumber or a taxi driver," he said. Musicians at La Scala earn a basic net monthly salary of 2.7 million lire (£1,100).

Leading article, page 19



Riccardo Muti, who swapped baton for keyboard. "We all lost; there were no winners"

Dreams of brave new Europe fail to move Britain

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN TAORMINA, SICILY

GRIM British resolve collided with dreams of a brave new Europe on a Sicilian hillside over the weekend as governments started up the machinery to shape the European Union of the 21st century.

David Davis, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, laid down a hard British line for Europeans gathered in the idyllic surroundings of an ancient convent, now a hotel, to open preparations for next year's inter-governmental review of the Maastricht treaty.

Mr Davis made it clear to colleagues on the new Reflection Group that Britain would oppose handing any new powers to Europe, and in particular would refuse to give up the veto in favour of more majority voting in new areas. "I told

the German minister in the group, played down the approach of the Euro-sceptical British junior minister, saying: "He did not turn up here to block anything."

Thanks to history, Britain's qualms about Europe were the constant background theme through a weekend which started in Messina with a salute to the conference there in 1955 that gave birth to the Common Market. The Government of Anthony Eden dismissed the effort as a waste of time.

Gleefully quoted by everyone over the weekend was the put-down by Russell Bretherton, the trade official sent by London as an observer in 1955. "I leave Messina happy

Attack on 'isolation'

because even if you continue meeting, you will not agree. Even agree, nothing will result; and even if something results, it will be a disaster." Douglas Hurd said Britain's approach now had nothing in common with its "patronising and pessimistic" attitude of 1955, but the memory offered a handy contrast at the weekend to the advocates of another visionary advance in Europe rather than the mere tidying-up in preparation for enlargement that Britain wants.

The big-leap school was given voice, for example, by Suzanne Agnelli, the Italian hort minister, who said that Europe "must above all be a political and intellectual adventure". France's Gaullist Government, which is closer to Britain than the Mitterrand administration when it comes to emphasising sovereignty, joined heartily in the visionary approach to Europe. "We have to be the founding fathers of the new Europe," said Hervé de Charette, the Foreign Minister.

But while Britain was cast in its usual role of wet blanket, its reservations over the danger of running ahead of public opinion were shared even by ardent enthusiasts such as Spain and Italy. Carlos Westendorp, the Spanish chairman of the Reflection Group, noted that the conference next year must explain every step. "The real discussion is whether there is further integration or disintegration... In the end, we run the risk of having Gruyère cheese full of holes."

However, Werner Hoyer, enlargement that Britain wants.

However, Werner Hoyer,

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British scientists attack Chinese 'eugenics law'

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

BRITISH geneticists have denounced a new Chinese law aimed at controlling the number of disabled children born.

The law, which came into effect last Thursday, is "an undisputed embodiment of eugenic principles", a group of the geneticists say in a letter to *The Times* today. Such ideas "have had a disastrous history in the West", they say, urging the People's Congress to think again.

Under the law, people diagnosed with some genetic diseases will not be permitted to marry unless they agree to be sterilised or are given long-term contraception, the nature of which is unspecified. The law also implies that parents who have had an abnormal child may be forced to terminate future pregnancies.

Professor John Burn of Newcastle University, one of the signatories of the letter, which represents the views of the Clinical Genetics Society, says that, as far as he is concerned, the new law "crosses the Rubicon", adding: "There are many positive aspects to the law, and I suspect that the people who have drafted it have done so with good will, but at least two

articles in it wouldn't pass muster, this side of the world. We're having none of it."

Professor Burn says it would be premature to talk of breaking off professional relations with China over the issue, but that may be considered in future. "We are hoping to engage in dialogue with the Chinese," he says. "We'd like to try to make them think again."

The two Articles in the Law on Maternal and Infant Healthcare that concern the British geneticists cover pre-marital check-ups and healthcare during a woman's

child-bearing years. Article 10 states that doctors carrying out the pre-marital check-up "shall explain and give medical advice to both the male and the female who have been diagnosed with certain genetic diseases of a serious nature which is considered to be inappropriate for child-bearing from a medical point of view."

Article 16 is vaguer, saying that if a doctor suspects that a fertile married couple have a genetic disease of a serious nature, the couple "shall take measures in accordance with the physician's medical ad-

vice". Professor Burn and his colleagues believe that, taken in conjunction with Article 10, this implies an obligation to make a prenatal diagnosis and possibly end the pregnancy.

Chen Minzhang, the Chinese Health Minister, has said that the new law is designed to target genetic diseases that "may totally or partially prevent the victim from living independently". In China, this might include conditions as common as a harelip and cleft palate, which often go uncorrected because the parents of affected children cannot afford the operation to cure them.

Also, children born with disabilities are often abandoned by their parents. The Government says it would be better if such children were not born, but geneticists argue that this is impossible. Many defects arise spontaneously, and everybody carries hidden genetic defects that have no effect unless they marry somebody with the same defect. Having one disabled child in such circumstances does not mean the next will also be disabled.

er and Taiwan were apparently cut in deference to Peking. Mr. Power called the censure "intellectual cleansing" and said the half-dozen authors of the book — due out this summer to mark the UN's fiftieth anniversary — withdrew their names.

He also wrote to Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, saying the cuts "made the book dishonest". A UN official denied there had been censorship. (AFP)

Letters, page 19

UN history 'censored'

Washington: The editor of an official history of the United Nations has criticised the volume, saying UN officials demanded that references to Taiwan and the Dalai Lama be removed, a report said.

Jonathan Power, an international affairs columnist who compiled *A Vision of Hope*, said UN officials demanded more than 40 cuts, according to *US News and World Report*. The references to Tibet's spiritual lead-

Security net keeps Peking in order

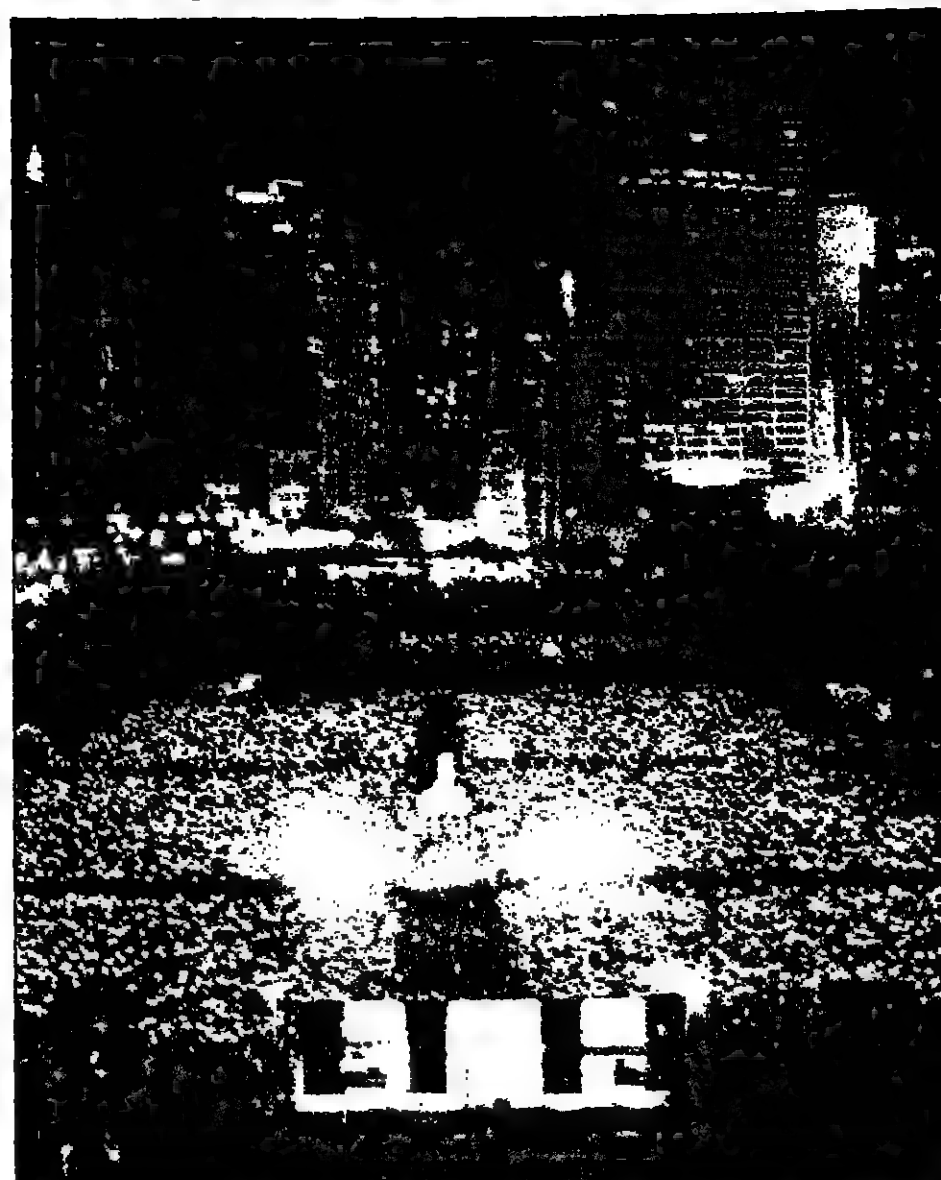
FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

THE sixth anniversary of the brutal crackdown on the pro-democracy movement in Tiananmen Square passed quietly under tight security yesterday. The Peking square was open to Chinese and foreign tourists, but bars and restaurants were banned from holding large gatherings.

While strict police measures prevented any serious unrest, diplomats say the underlying tensions indicated that the ideological battle lines have been drawn for the era that will follow the death of Deng Xiaoping, China's frail paramount leader.

In the past few weeks, eight petitions signed by more than 100 scientists, intellectuals and human rights activists have urged President Jiang Zemin, who is seeking to impose his authority, to reassess what happened in 1989 and to allow greater freedom.

Many of those who ordered the troops to fire on the pro-democracy demonstrators, killing hundreds of protesters, have been eased aside by Mr Jiang, although Li Peng is still Prime Minister.



Thousands gather in Hong Kong last night to mark the Peking massacre anniversary

Harvard scholar says Jung was fraud

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

CARL JUNG, a founding father of psychoanalysis, falsified evidence to promote his theories, according to a Harvard University scholar, who claims the Jung family has blocked access to archives that would prove the Swiss psychologist was a fraud.

Richard Noll, 35, a prize-winning academic, alleges that Jung was "the most influential liar of the 20th century". At stake is not merely the reputation of a renowned thinker, but a lucrative industry based on Jungian analysis.

The dispute centres on a psychoanalytical case known as Solar Phallus Man. In 1909, one of Jung's assistants, J. J. Honegger, interviewed a male patient who reported seeing visions of the sun with a phallus. Citing similar images in the ancient Greek cult of the god Mithras, Jung seized on the case as proof that humanity shares archetypal images in its collective unconscious.

But Mr Noll says that at the time, German publications were popularising the mythology of Mithras. Solar Phallus Man may simply have been recalling something that he had read.

In his book *The Jung Cult*, Mr Noll claims that Jung falsified dates when pagan mythology books were published to show that the man could not have read them.

Proof that Jung lied exists in Honegger's notes, copies of which are in the Library of Congress. But the Jung family has refused Mr Noll permission to see the archive.



Jung: "most influential liar of 20th century"

Class war champion triumphs in India

FROM COOMI KAPOOR IN DELHI

A WOMAN Untouchable has become Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, India's most populous state. Mayavati, 42, was sworn in at a ceremony on Saturday night that sent shivers down the spines of many upper-class Hindus who have dominated for centuries in the caste-ridden northern state.

The plump former teacher, who was installed in the state capital, Lucknow, by Modi Lal Varma, the Governor, is portrayed by her adversaries as a middle-class woman who can shower the "thickest" abuse on those who cross her path. She believes that a violent backlash by the lower classes in India is inevitable after centuries of oppression.

Last year, she created a stir when she scoffed at Mahatma Gandhi for bestowing the term *Harjan* (the children of God) on the Untouchables. He is revered by older Untouchables for his struggle to enhance their status.

But the radical younger generation and Miss Mayavati, who prefer to be called *Dalit* (the oppressed), accuse Gandhi and other congressmen of encouraging "Uncle Tom" representatives from the official castes, who constitute almost 25 per cent of the population.

Ironically, Miss Mayavati, who treats traditional Hinduism with disdain, has gained power thanks to the support of the conservative right-wing Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which has agreed to support her minority government. In the past, the BJP, which is dominated by the upper class, has often been derided by leaders of her Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) for its policies against the lower classes.

But the BJP was obviously keen to break the stranglehold of Mulayam Singh Yadav, the former Chief Minister, who won power 18 months ago in an electoral alliance with the BSP. Mr Yadav's support came from the middle classes.

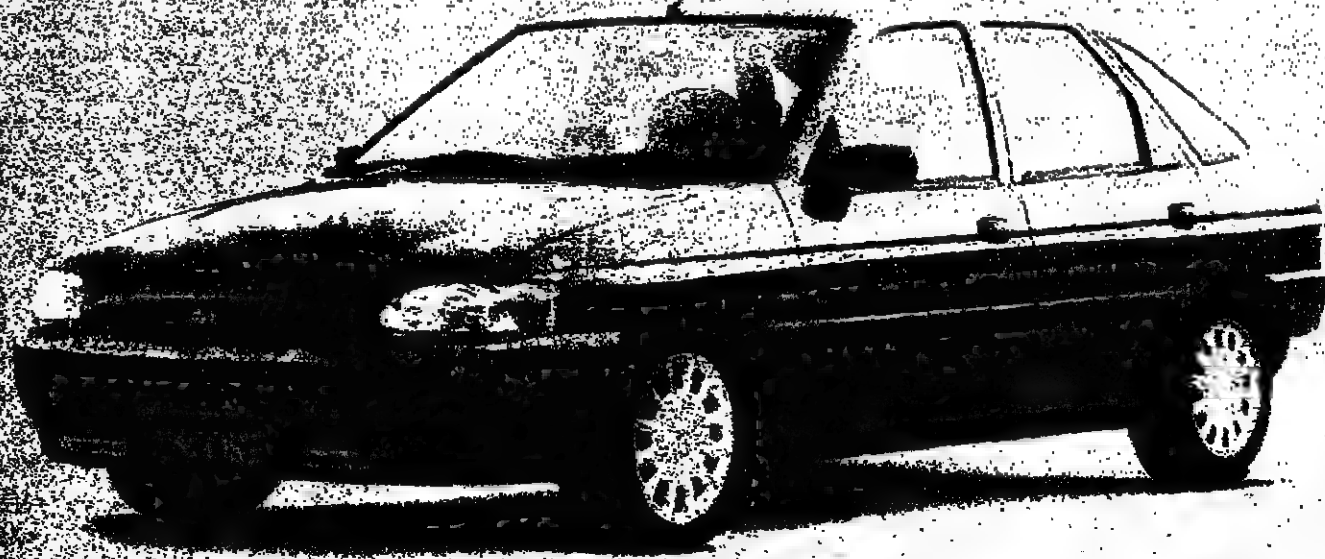
Although he had long-standing differences with his alliance partner, Mr Yadav and most political parties were taken aback by the opportunistic alliance between the BJP and the BSP. But most observers predict it will not last long.

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Argentina offers deal on Falklands mines

By Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor

ARGENTINA is offering to pay for the clearance of all the remaining land mines in the Falklands. In return, Buenos Aires is urging Britain to allow a second visit to the islands by relatives of the soldiers buried there after the Falklands War in 1982.

Guido Di Tella, the Argentine Foreign Minister, will put his country's offer to the Falkland Islands Parliamentary Group during an official visit to Britain that begins today. Large areas of the islands are mined off because of mines, which are difficult to

find and defuse as they have shifted in the peaty soil. After several casualties, mine clearance has stopped.

The Argentine offer is part of an attempt by Buenos Aires to assure the Falklands that it wants a new, peaceful relationship. Although Argentina has not dropped its claim to the islands, the issue was played down in the recent presidential election campaign, and President Menem does not want the stalemate over the Falklands' future to hamper its improved relations with Britain.

Weak links in chain of command undermine role of extra arms

THE first six British 105mm guns to enter Bosnia arrived yesterday amid confusion over when and where they might be fired in anger.

Passing over the Makljen Ridge, a wave of high rock that is the gateway to central Bosnia, the three convoys of container trucks and white Land Rovers ended their mountainous journey at the United Nations base in Gornji Vakuf, a mixed Bosnian-Croat town in the valley below.

Here, the battery from 19 Field Regiment Royal Artillery was unloaded, becoming the newest and most potent firepower of the nascent Task Force Alpha, a battle group



Officers on the ground are worried by the lack of a military aim and cohesion between the UN and Nato. Anthony Loyd writes from Gornji Vakuf

founded on the 1st Battalion the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment in Vitez.

On the highest point of the Makljen Ridge sits a massive stone fort dominating the area for miles on each side. The fort is Tito's, and commemorates the scene of one of his most significant battles. In 1943, his

partisan forces smashed combined Chetnik, German and Ustashi units in an engagement that was a turning point of the war in Yugoslavia.

"Perhaps this, too, could be a turning point," said Lieutenant-Colonel Jeff Cook, commander of the British battalion, from his Warrior

fighting vehicle as he watched the first vehicles winding into view. "I wonder if their shells are painted white too?" was the more sceptical comment of another British officer.

As the Western forces begin to pour in, Bosnians are asking which way the war will turn. Many are pessimistic. "We hear 6,000 English soldiers are coming, but what good will that do?" asked a Croat woman who has witnessed the ebb and flow of the three-year war through the surrounding hills.

"Either they will do nothing, or the situation will become worse for everyone — them and us." The newly arrived

120 British troops are the first of a three-phase deployment to Bosnia. They are to be followed by a second battery of six guns, two Lynx helicopters, an engineer squadron and further artillery command elements.

They were sent to bolster the UN peacekeeping effort. But in the Bosnian mountains, far from London and Paris, there is confusion and suspicion among the UN troops as well as the people they are supposed to be protecting. The new European force was given limited "agreed objectives" in Paris. But officers on the ground are still worried by what they see as the lack of the

one thing military men most need: a clear aim.

"The decision to send in these men was little more than a knee-jerk reaction to denied national pride," said one army source. "What do you do with an armoured battle group and an armoured brigade who are trained and equipped to destroy Russian tanks, when there is no political will to become involved in a serious tangle with the Serbs? It could be a very dangerous game of bluff."

The rhetoric of the weekend seemed only to intensify the UN's predicament. On a visit to Vitez, General Sir John Wilsey, Commander-in-Chief

UK Land Forces, said: "We wish to do things by consent, but for the moment consent has collapsed."

Few doubt the need for tougher international action in dealing with the Serbs. But the present chain of UN command is already so fragmented as to be almost inoperable. "There is no military command here," said another UN officer. "What a British general may order will be interpreted entirely differently by each national contingent. And as for the UN co-ordinating with Nato, it just doesn't work — there are too many diverse national interests at stake here."

Red Cross tug hit by mine blast

Colombo: A Red Cross vessel carrying 12 people hit a mine laid by Tamil Tiger rebels off northern Sri Lanka yesterday, killing at least one crewman, the military said.

One Indonesian crew member was missing, presumed dead, and two were injured in the blast. The tug, chartered by the International Committee of the Red Cross for the regular run from Point Pedro 125 miles down the east coast to Trincomalee, had just undergone security checks at the northern army-controlled port of Kankesanthurai, near Jaffna.

As the vessel pulled out of the port, it hit the mine, blowing a hole in the hull, the military said. All the other crew members were rescued. It is not thought that the mine had been deliberately planted with the Red Cross vessel as a target. (Reuters)

Another 4,000 troops on standby

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

FRANCE announced yesterday that it was putting an extra 4,000 troops on standby to go to Bosnia to back up the 10,000-man rapid reaction force agreed in Paris by allied defence chiefs on Saturday.

The purpose of the new deployments is "to execute combat missions, allowing the 'blue berets' to carry out their peace mission," said Charles Millon, the French Defence Minister. "This is not a warfare operation, it is a peacekeeping force."

French officials said the rapid reaction force would have a simplified chain of command, allowing the troops to retaliate far more swiftly than previously.

In a move welcomed by France and Britain, William Perry, the US Defence Secretary, offered air support, including Cobra attack helicopters, AC130 gunships, and specialised communications

Russian Army 'takes rebel base'

Moscow: The Russian Army claimed to have captured the Chechen separatist headquarters town of Vedeno, inflicting heavy casualties on fighters loyal to General Dzhokhar Dudayev (Anatoli Lliev writes). Rebels dismissed the claims, and Western correspondents treated the "victory" with scepticism.

The fall of Vedeno would cut the separatists' remaining territory in half. A Russian army spokesman said that Vedeno, in the foothills of the Caucasus, was captured on Sunday after fierce fighting.

Film shock for Dole's wife

Washington: The attack by Robert Dole, the Senate majority leader, on Hollywood's "nightmares of depravity" has prompted his wife Elizabeth to sell her shares in the Walt Disney Company (Ian Brodie writes). She discovered that a Disney subsidiary distributed Piers, denounced by her husband as part of his pitch for conservative votes in his campaign for the Republican presidential nomination. The film portrays sexual misconduct by Roman Catholic clergy.

Opposition press fights crackdown

Attempts by President Mubarak of Egypt to muzzle the opposition press are being resisted by Cairo dailies, including Al-Wakef, and four weeklies, which have each cancelled an edition in protest at a new law introduced last month (Christopher Walker writes). The law imposes prison sentences of five years and fines of up to £1,875 for "defamation of the state and government officials".

Carlos 'aide' is extradited

SANAA: Yemen has extradited to Germany Johannes Weirich, the alleged right-hand man of Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, known as Carlos the Jackal. The extradition followed a formal request from Germany after Weirich's arrest in the southern Yemeni city of Aden. Germany has issued four warrants for his arrest on suspicion of involvement in terrorist attacks throughout Europe. (AFP)

Strip tease

Taipei: Hsu Shao-tan, a Taiwanese nude dancer who previously campaigned naked, is to run for parliament for a third time, but will not say whether as an independent or party candidate. (Reuters)

Extra muscle will give UN power to call the shots

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE newly-created rapid reaction force for Bosnia — the first of its kind in the history of United Nations peacekeeping missions — could lead to an increase in hostile actions against the Bosnian Serbs.

Although the defence ministers from Nato, Finland and Sweden agreed at their meeting in Paris on Saturday that the new force would not have an "offensive" mission, the clearly defined objective laid down by the 14 countries undermined the determination to implement the existing UN mandate "without backing down". One of the principal weaknesses of the Bosnia mission so far has been the vulnerability of the UN troops when confronted by obdurate and threatening Serbs, and

sometimes Muslims and Croats. The interpretation of the rules of engagement has often erred on the side of caution to the extent that the warring factions, in particular the Serbs, have been able to seize UN weapons and armoured vehicles, hijack food and fuel supplies and detain, or take hostage, UN personnel with relative impunity. One Ministry of Defence source said yesterday: "This is now going to stop."

While the defence ministers in Paris agreed that the rapid reaction force, consisting of one self-supporting British brigade and one French-led multinational brigade, would

operate under the existing mandate, the heavily-armed reinforcements will ensure that it is properly enforced.

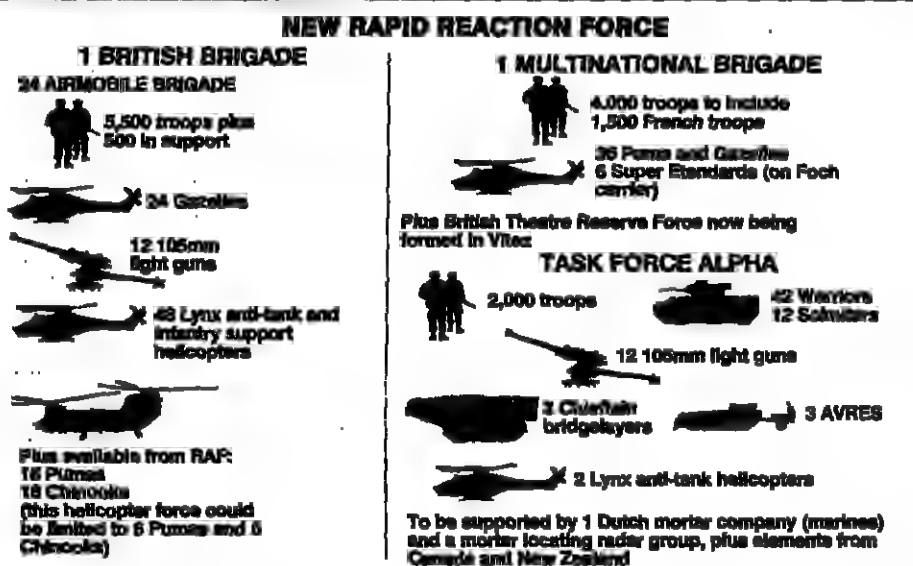
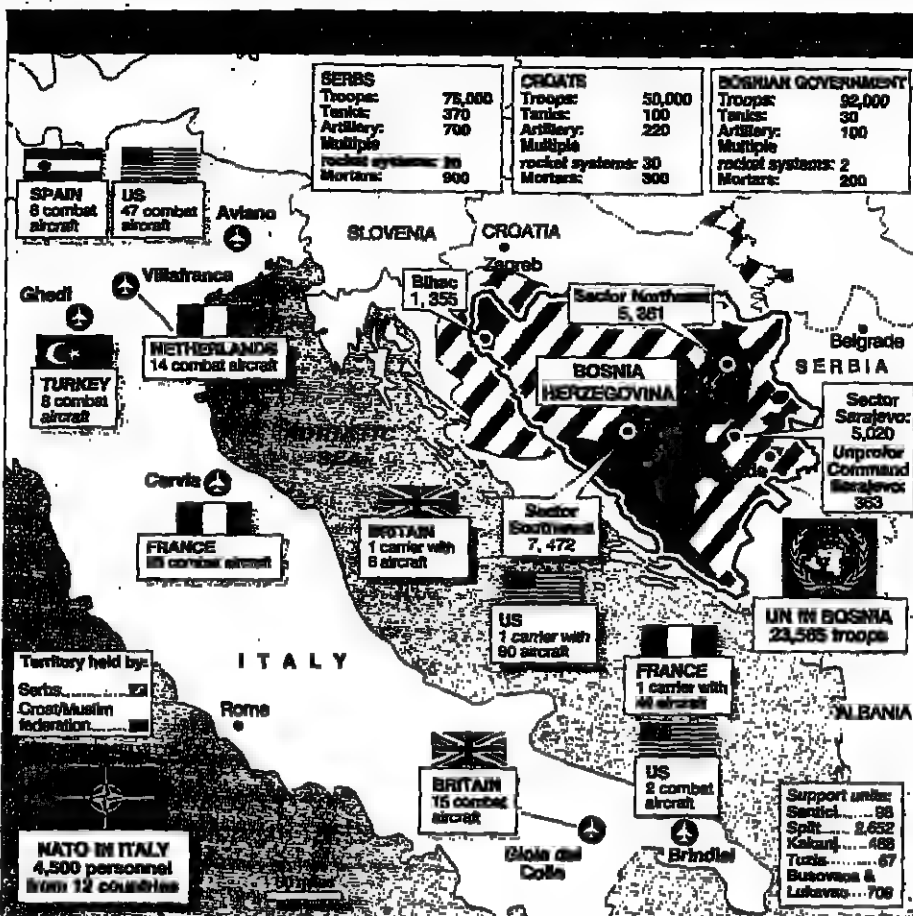
On paper, this means that the two senior UN commanders who will be in charge of the two brigades, Lieutenant-General Bernard Janvier in Zagreb and Lieutenant-General Rupert Smith in Sarajevo, could dispatch elements of the rapid reaction force to protect the six "safe areas" against attack; counter any attempt to stop the flow of supplies to UN troops; and rescue peacekeepers held hostage.

However, the UN commanders will not be allowed to use the 10,000-man rapid reaction force to batter the Serbs. The first rule in peace-keeping is to negotiate, not to open fire, and this will not change just because the frustrated and angry West has decided to play tough.

The Paris meeting represented a turning point in the way the countries which have contributed troops to Bosnia now expect to enforce the UN mandate. The two brigades will take advantage of the flexibility in the existing rules of engagement to impose their will on intransigent warlords far more than UN commanders have felt it prudent to do in the past.

General Smith and General Janvier, the overall commander in the former Yugoslavia, will also have the luxury of being able to call on two well-equipped and highly mobile brigades to provide back-up in the event of any future military crisis.

As agreed by the Paris meeting, the Reaction Force will consist of Britain's 24 Airborne Brigade — at least 5,500 men — and a multinational brigade that will include 1,500 French troops equipped with armoured personnel carriers and combat helicopters, and the new British Theatre Reserve Force which is already being formed in Vitez. This is based on the



Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, a dozen 105mm light guns from 19 Field Regiment and Scimitar light tanks from the 9th-12th Lancashire and the Household Cavalry Regiment.

Yesterday the Dutch also confirmed that they would supply to the multinational brigade's Marine mortar company and a mortar locating radar group. Further elements from Canada and New Zealand are expected to be offered this week. The rapid reaction force, which will take several

weeks to deploy to Bosnia and has yet to be formally approved by the UN Security Council, has been given a number of key objectives.

The principle ones are: to improve operational capability; to reduce the vulnerability of the UN forces; to regroup the most exposed units in isolated areas; to maintain the UN presence in the six "safe areas" — Sarajevo, Gorazde, Srebrenica, Zepa, Tuzla and Bihac — and to guarantee freedom of movement and

supplies into Sarajevo and the other enclaves.

Another objective is to ensure that all tanks and artillery pieces are removed from the UN heavy weapons exclusion zones, with the aim of closing down the weapons collection points inside the zones. The Serbs have been able to remove tanks and guns at will.

The French proposal of creating a secure corridor into the Bosnian capital has been softened.

Clinton gives in to critics on offer to send US ground forces

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON



Perry: flying to Paris for Nato ministerial meeting

IN AN attempt to silence relentless criticism, President Clinton has sharply limited the terms of his offer to send American ground troops to help United Nations peacekeepers to move to more defensible positions in Bosnia.

Just three days after declaring that America should be prepared to assist Nato in a "reconfiguration and strengthening" of its forces, Mr Clinton used his weekly radio address to put forward a far less sweeping policy. He said US troops would go to the rescue of UN forces only in the "remote, highly unlikely event" that peacekeepers became stranded in a particular area and

needed help to move to safety. "If a UN unit needs an emergency extraction, we would assist after consulting with Congress. I think it is highly unlikely that we would be asked to do it," he said.

Mr Clinton had opened the door to a far broader interpretation during his earlier speech last week at the US Air Force Academy in Colorado, where he spoke of America's obligations to Nato and said: "I do not believe we can leave them in the lurch." That speech was hailed in Europe as marking a significant change in US policy.

But it caused widespread fears among the American public and in

Congress where almost nobody, Democrat or Republican, supported the President and many were strongly critical. Robert Dole, the Senate Republican leader, denounced Mr Clinton's decision as "nothing more than a policy of reinforcing failure".

For two days after the speech, Mr Clinton and his aides tried to justify the new policy without mentioning that US troops would be used only for an emergency evacuation. The shift outlined in the President's radio address on Saturday was confirmed by William Perry, the US Defence Secretary, as he flew to Paris for a meeting of Nato defence ministers. "Moving around UN forces to reposition them is not part of our proposal," he said. In the

Republican response to the address, Benjamin Gilman, chairman of the House International Relations Committee, criticised Mr Clinton for sending "not a clear and steady signal, but the wavering notes of an uncertain trumpet". The President's foreign policy had been one surprise after another, and Bosnia was merely the latest instance where the Administration had leapt before it looked, he said.

Administration officials insisted that Mr Clinton was not backingtracking on the radio, but was simply narrowing his policy to make it more specific for an American domestic audience. They claimed that his earlier speech had been directed more to the Europeans and had bolstered their resolve. Still,

Anthony Lake, Mr Clinton's National Security Adviser, while acknowledging that the speech could have been misunderstood as suggesting the possible imminent use of US troops in combat, added: "We think it was misinterpreted."

The speech was also put together in a hurry. Mr Clinton woke on Wednesday morning having decided overnight that America should help if asked to support the movement of peacekeepers from remote enclaves to more secure locations in Bosnia. The President and Mr Lake worked on the speech during the three-hour flight to Colorado on Air Force One. The final version was typed on board before the aircraft landed and was delivered by Mr Clinton exactly as written.

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A huge detector to solve a cosmic riddle □ Why natural resources have not run out □ A new technique for looking below the surface of materials



IT CAME from outer space, and caused consternation. Not a UFO but a shower of cosmic rays, which hit a detector in the Utah desert with a power that physicists are still unable to comprehend.

The event occurred on October 15, 1991, at Dugway Proving Grounds 75 miles from Salt Lake City, where researchers had set up an instrument called the Fly's Eye to detect incoming cosmic rays. There are billions of such events every day: for each square metre of the Earth's surface, 200 cosmic-ray particles with an energy greater than a few million electron volts strike every day.

But the Fly's Eye event was something special. It was, physicists say, as if you went out to catch a butterfly and snared an F-111 instead. It had an energy of 3,200 billion billion electron volts, and theory dictated that such energetic particles could not exist anywhere, because they would rapidly lose energy in collisions with the microwave radiation which permeates the universe.

Caught in a power shower

Give a physicist a mystery and he'll make an expensive machine to solve it. Since the end of January a team of 100 physicists has been working on the design for a huge cosmic-ray detector which will cover an area the size of Northumberland.

Loosely based at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory at Batavia, west of Chicago, the team is international and members have spent a lot of the time communing electronically from their home bases. The two leaders are Professor James Cronin, of the University of Chicago,



SCIENCE BRIEFING
Nigel Hawkes

and Professor Alan Watson, of Leeds University.

The project is called the Pierre Auger Project, after the French physicist who first detected very powerful showers of cosmic rays in the 1930s. Since then, high-energy physics has been dominated by particle accelerators.

But the Fly's Eye event puts such machines in the shade. Its energy was 300 million times higher than the highest ever achieved in an accelerator. Particles of the highest energy are scarce: at 10 billion electron volts, the frequency is only one per square kilometre per year. Hence the need for a really big detector — or actually two, one for each hemisphere. They will consist of 3,000 individual detector stations, each about the size of a one-car garage, distributed in a grid that will cover 5,000 square kilometres.

Because the cosmic rays hitting the atmosphere start a "shower" of secondary sub-atomic particles when they hit air molecules, several stations are likely to pick up signals simultaneously. Data from each station will be sent to a central control room, which will work out the direction and energy of the original cosmic ray.

What will this tell us? The team says that these particles hold secrets to the evolution and perhaps the beginning of the universe. They might be produced by the collapse of hypothetical objects left over from the Big Bang. Next month, the design complete, the task of raising the \$60 million (£37.5 million) to \$100 million needed for each one will begin.

Physicists are good at that, too, so don't be against the first showers being spotted soon after the new millennium begins.

First reserve

DURING the 1960s and '70s, the air was loud with lamentations about how we were all going to run out of resources. The Club of Rome, with its *Limits to Growth*, suggested that faced with growing populations and increased prosperity, mineral resources would soon dwindle and prices would rise.

Not so, happily. In the current issue of *Science*, Dr Carroll Ann Hodges, of the US Geological Survey, points out that not only have minerals not run out, but they are more plentiful than ever, and cost no more in real terms than they did 150 years ago. World reserves of many minerals now amount to well over a century's supply.

The reasons include the slowing of economic expansion after 1974, the fact that mature economies consume fewer minerals as they shift to services — and that they substitute new products, including

plastics and ceramics. Recycling has also increased, while resources have expanded.

Not everybody got it wrong. Fifteen years ago Paul Ehrlich, of Stanford University, bet Julian Simon, of the University of Maryland, \$1,000 that five key metals would rise in price. Simon won, and Ehrlich has paid up. Now the two are discussing a new bet, on trends over the next 15 years, but cannot agree the precise terms. My money's on Professor Simon.

Inside story

AFTER X-rays, ultrasound, and magnetic resonance imaging, a new way of probing beneath the surface of things has been invented by scientists at AT&T Bell Laboratories at Holmdel, New Jersey. They call it "T-rays" — for terahertz, or trillion-cycle-per-second, electromagnetic pulses.

Binbin Hu and Martin Nuss, the inventors, use laser pulses lasting only a tenth of a trillionth

of a second to generate the pulses, which can be transmitted through objects and detected the other side. The amounts of distortion of the T-rays give an indication of the characteristics of the material.

The effects are striking. Fat hardly absorbs any of the T-rays, while lean meat absorbs 25 times as much, so a slice of bacon shows up brilliantly. Leaves that are taken from trees and slowly dry out show the loss of water clearly.

Dr David Miller, of the Advanced Photonics Research Department at the lab, says that the research is significant because although spectroscopic studies at these frequencies have been done in the past, nobody has yet used T-rays in an imaging system. "This is an exciting technique that lets us see things in a completely new way," he says.

The technique could have a lot of potential applications, from medical imaging to the analysis of chemical reactions, materials inspection, fault detection, examining silicon chips for faults and inspecting packaging. Most plastics are transparent to T-rays, says AT&T, so they can see inside plastic packaging.

Understanding the mystery of memory

The ability to adapt to circumstances is one of the hallmarks of life. A bodybuilder's bulging biceps, an athlete's slow pulse, a sunbather's well-tanned form, all testify to the capacity of our tissues to react to recent demands. Even our bones are shaped by use, and wither with disuse.

The ubiquitous plasticity of living things is the biological backdrop to an ability which has reached its apogee in man — the ability to learn. Well before we take our first breath, and throughout our long lives, our brains are shaped by our surroundings and our actions. In no time, behaviour and experience are pervaded by what we have learnt: you learnt this language once, and how to read it, and in a fairly straightforward sense you even learnt to see.

The microscopic basis of human memory remains a subject of active research. Experiments in the 1960s suggested that memories might be encoded in large molecules, akin to DNA. This had the curious implication that memories could literally be fed from one animal to another. Fortunately for common sense, this line of research proved ill-founded.

Most current hypotheses assume that memory depends upon the strengthening of connections between the nerve cells from which the brain is constructed. The numbers of cells and connections involved are prodigious, making it

The ability to remember has reached its height in man — but how do we do it? Dr Adam Zeman explains

plausible that they provide the physical basis for memory: there are about one hundred thousand million cells, each making and receiving hundreds or thousands of connections with other cells.

The environment in early life has been shown to influence these connections. Thus the number and shape of synapses, the points of contact at which a chemical signal passes from one nerve cell to another, are influenced by the richness of the surroundings in which an animal is reared. Similarly, experiments in the 1970s, now of legendary status in neuroscience, showed that the growth cones in the visual areas of the brain require normal visual experience, and will be disturbed if the visual surroundings are impoverished or distorted.

It may well be that our continuing ability to learn depends upon subtle persistence of the plasticity apparent in early development. But while plasticity is seen everywhere in the nervous system, memory is a complex and multifaceted capacity. The in-

tials of a single patient will always be linked with the scientific dissection of the varieties of memory.

In 1953 a neurosurgeon, William Beecher Scoville, performed an operation intended to relieve epilepsy in a 27-year-old man, H.M. The operation involved the removal of the inner regions of both temporal lobes, the part of the brain

lying deep to the inner ear. This area includes a curled structure bearing a vague resemblance to a sea horse — hence its charming name, the "hippocampus". As H.M. recovered from the operation, his doctors and family realised that he had

paid a high price for the amelioration of his seizures: he had been robbed of his memory.

In particular, H.M. had lost the ability to form new memories, a condition known as "anterograde" amnesia. He had, in addition, lost access to memories from the ten years or so preceding his surgery, evidence for a limited "retrograde" amnesia. The anterograde amnesia was profound. After his operation, H.M. became a captive of the passing

moment, unable to accumulate the record of experience which we normally call upon to make sense of our lives.

The intensive study of H.M. and others like him has led to the conclusion that the brain's record of new experience, and the retrieval of recent entries, depends on the hippocampus of the temporal lobes.

But, in retrospect, H.M.'s predicament was as remarkable for the abilities which survived his surgery as for those which the surgeon's knife excised.

H.M. quite clearly retained a short-term memory active over seconds. He remained able to make conversation. He scored normally on tests of IQ. He could perform quite demanding tasks — just so long as they did not require that he learn new information. This implied that "short-term" or "immediate" memory functions independently of the ability to lay down a permanent record.

Several years passed before the study of H.M.'s case yielded a second major insight: some important forms of long-term learning survive the loss of the hippocampus. The first hint that this might be so came from the odd observation that H.M. could learn the tricky skill of tracing an outline while watching his hand in a mirror rather than viewing it directly.

Although H.M. had no recollection from one occasion to the next that he had performed this task before, his performance steadily improved. Individuals like H.M. can, in fact, learn a range of skills, from complex sequences of movement to strategies for solving mathematical problems, despite a dense amnesia for their reading. Such findings have suggested a fundamental distinction between "declarative" and "procedural" memory.

Your memory of last summer's holiday is declarative — available to consciousness. Your hippocampus were to put it into store. But your ability to ride a bike is procedural, independent of any conscious recall of your first wobbly expeditions. Like short-term memory, procedural memory turns out to be a complex mix of dissociable skills involving several parts of the brain.

H.M.'s story illustrates one more major demarcation to the brain's management of memory. His remote memories survived his surgery, and in particular his "knowledge base" was unimpaired: he would have known, for example, what a skyscraper is and what "skyscraper" means.

There is much still to learn about learning, from the details of the microscopic modifications it induces to the patterns of activation in the brain when we remember. But the distinctions which have emerged from the study of patients like H.M. — between short and long-term memory, declarative and procedural, semantic and episodic, will structure the study of memory for many years to come.

Dr Zeman is a senior registrar in neurology at Addenbrooks Hospital, Cambridge.



Synapses, the points at which a signal passes between nerve cells; cycling is a skill we perform without conscious recall



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Rising sea temperatures may be killing Britain's fish

Where are all our salmon?

Satellites are to be used to discover whether rising sea temperatures in the Atlantic are behind the sharp decline in salmon returning to Britain's rivers.

Climbing temperatures, triggered by global warming, may be causing the cold-water feeding grounds off southern Greenland and the Faroe Islands to shrink. They may also be altering the point where the Gulf Stream meets cold waters from the Arctic, reducing the supply of food to adult fish.

The theory is to be tested by scientists in Canada and Britain, who are to use one of the world's most sophisticated satellites to check Atlantic sea temperatures from Norway to Labrador. Readings from the European Space Agency's ERS-2 satellite are to be compared with those from other satellites and ship-based measurements over the past 15 years.

Dr Brian Whitehouse, of the Atlantic Centre for Remote Sensing of the Oceans in Halifax, Nova Scotia, says: "When the salmon leave their rivers we believe they stay in colder waters of between two and 10 degrees C north of the Gulf Stream. The temperature could be crucial... we want to see if it has changed and what the size of that cold water is now."

The project is being orchestrated by the Atlantic Salmon Trust in Britain, with backing from the Ministry of Agriculture's fisheries laboratory in Lowestoft and the Scottish Office's fish laboratories in Pitlochry, Tayside, and Aberdeen. Captain Jeremy Read, of the trust, says: "There has been a steady decline in salmon from British rivers in the last 20 years.

"The numbers of smolts [young salmon] being produced is high, but the numbers of fish coming back is falling. So there is increased mortality at sea."

Last year angling on the River Dee was closed to conserve salmon. The trust hopes that the three-year research programme will also help to set up a better way of managing stocks.

Satellites can beam back information in minutes on the state of the sea. Captain Read says that this could be used to forecast the numbers of salmon likely to return to rivers, allowing landowners to set quotas. The information could also be used to increase the stocking of rivers to ensure that numbers do not fall.

John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, has promised to step up research into rising temperatures.

This follows research by the American Environmental Protection Agency showing that scores of species would be lost from huge areas if temperatures continue to rise.

Captain Read says that research carried out in Britain by the Institute of Freshwater Ecology confirmed the American claims. "It has shown that an increase in temperature has an effect on the size of sea-trout smolts and hampers their ability to survive at sea and migrate," he says.

Captain Read says that research is needed to screen families of sea trout to find genetic differences. It may be possible then to breed sea trout and salmon to withstand global warming.

NICK NUTTALL

SHOULD TEACHERS PUT PUPILS RIGHT ON RIGHT AND WRONG?

This week The TES devotes four pages to the debate about Values Education.

We ask whether schools should be teaching morality, and if so whose values should they be passing on?

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JAVI 60 135 D

The head of the Criminal Bar Association tells Anne McElvoy how she conquered a male bastion

'Women lawyers no longer need to feel cowed by men'

As I scan the board of names outside the barristers' chambers in the Temple's Brick Court, that of Anne Rafferty leaps out from the pathologically near lists.

I wonder why, given that it is nowhere near as exotic as many of the other illustrious purveyors of prosecution and defence. But it conjures up a reassuring image of the sort of no-nonsense poise you would be jolly glad to encounter, were you ever to find yourself accused of murdering your husband's lover.

Person and name turn out to be a wonderful fit. Rafferty, 45, one of Britain's top criminal lawyers and the new chairman of the 2,000-strong Criminal Bar Association — the first woman to hold the post at the head of the key consultative body for criminal law matters — is adept at walking with great speed in her sharp, straight-skirted suit. Slightly chippy at the idea that the appointment causes more interest than usual because she is a woman, she admonishes *The Times's* photographer: "We wouldn't be doing this if I were a bloke."

She beat three male candidates to the post, which she will carry out besides her schedule as a QC, a job in which she is highly regarded, according to one colleague, for her "extraordinary calm in the face of really ghastly murders". In addition, she is a part-time Crown Court Recorder.

Her main motivation for heading the CBA appears to be her frustration with the unsettling effects on lawyers of the changes in sentencing, and attempts to decrease the use of suspended sentences and pro-

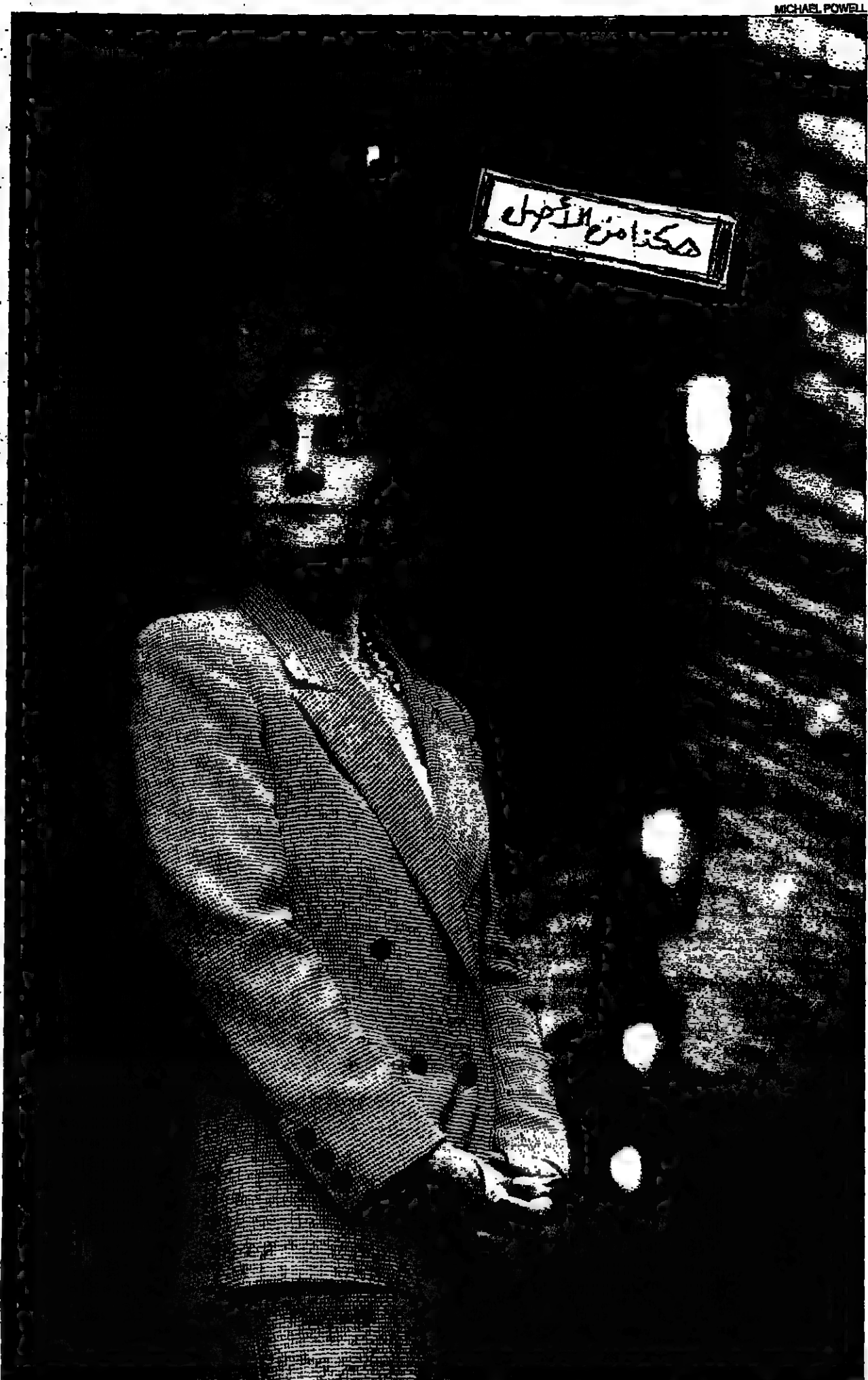
mote tough punishments for young offenders in order to boost the Government's image as being tough on crime, are a particular bugbear. "You go to court thinking, 'I hope I haven't missed something that came in on midnight on Wednesday,'" she says. "It is disconcerting for everyone and it shows a lack of the strong, courageous insight a government needs in order to give stability to the law."

But all administrations are prone to gorge themselves on new legislation and, after a long time in power, the temptation to fiddle with the margins after the big ideas for change have run out is irresistible. Would it be all that different if Tony Blair were in No 10?

The expectations of the barrister-turned-crown prince are high in the Inns of Court. "His approach would be a point of great interest to me," she says. "He ought to know that it is better for a government to take a long view of legislation. I understand the tension between that side of him and immediate political needs, but was it not a style of long-termism?"

The place is also, with speculation about how Cherie Blair — who has, like Miss Rafferty, become a silk with precocious speed — will combine the roles of Prime Minister's consort and full-time barrister, should her husband's skills of advocacy away the nation when it counts. "I don't think it would be professionally difficult for her at all," says Miss Rafferty, "even if she might find some mechanical problems combining two demanding and very different roles."

But she is enthusiastic about Mrs Blair's decision to embrace the role of political wife through the traditional channel of sitting on the party conference podium beside her husband and holding his hand. "I thought she might be in the audience rather than beside him on the platform. That's his job. Hers is some-



Anne Rafferty: she found the combination of barristering and bringing up her children "an incredible grind"

thing else. After all, I wouldn't want my husband sitting in the well of the court during a difficult case."

Anyway, her husband, Brian Barker, is more likely to be in a court of his own — he is a leading QC specialising in fraud cases. "He is senior to me and being married to him has brought the extra benefit of having a walking reference book in the living room." The couple have three school-age daughters. A fourth died at the age of two. "That has coloured the way that I am," she says simply. "It was devastating for us."

She found the combination of barristering and bringing up her children "an incredible grind" in the early years. "I didn't stop working. The profession was much more old-fashioned in its approach to women then. There was no question of being let off chambers rent for a while. I had to keep going and just hoping that I wouldn't go mad when I dropped their baked beans for the fifteenth time. It is better nowadays, but criminal law will always be tough on women because it is court-based and rather inflexible."

She says that she was inspired as a young barrister by the tenacity of Barbara Mills, now Director of Public Prosecutions, who has become a friend. After the stabbing of Mrs Mills's husband, she rang to comfort her, characteristically dispensing strength rather than weepy sympathy. "I told her, 'Chin up, old boot.' Feminists hoping that she will use her high profile to give force to their complaints about the lot of women in the

profession are likely to be disappointed. She was not convinced by a colleague's research claim that there is institutionalised sexual harassment in the Inns of Court. The case of Nigel Hamilton, QC, suspended for bestowing unwelcome attentions on a female colleague, does not strike her as part of a pattern. "There are still men who are intentionally or unintentionally patronising, but I think that young women are more and more able to be both pleasant and assertive."

There is an emerging women's network among London barristers, of which she fights shy. Her reputation is that of a formidable, slightly intolerant colleague and a loner. "My temperament is my own and I am prepared to tread a path some might consider lonely," is a typical self-summary.

She clearly finds the embrace of conventional feminism stifling. A headmistress's daughter from Lancashire, she recalls that "it didn't cross my mind that I wouldn't have a fulfilling career". She graduated from Sheffield University, and started her pupillage at a time when many top chambers were leery of taking on anyone — let alone a woman — from a non-Oxbridge background. The Bar still has a reputation for giving preference to candidates from the older universities, which she is keen to dispel. "Being a good barrister demands a huge range of formal, intellectual and intangible skills, like being able to talk to a judge, a thug and a detective inspector naturally. The very unpretentiousness and originality that lead some people to decide to try more adventurous universities might later make them damn good barristers. We can't afford to lose such people."

Some solicitors she has encountered would not entertain the idea of engaging a woman barrister. "But in other cases, it worked well for me — there have been defendants who were so stunned to have a woman cross-examining them that I had them eating out of my hand."

Her own eldest daughter, 15-year-old Camilla, may well follow her to the Bar. "The great thing about where women are now is that we can be amused, or diverted or plain fed-up about some men's attitudes to gender at work. But we no longer have any reason to feel cowed by them."

Look back in forgiveness

John Osborne's loved ones should not carry on being angry for him

GREAT giggling among the literati over John Osborne's memorial service. How amusing, how brave, how original of his widow and mourners to put a placard by the church gate, banning his pet enemies from entry! "The following will NOT be admitted" it trilled, giving four names and nicknames: a director, a critic, an actor and a fellow-playwright.

Framed and glazed, the sign marked not a sudden decision but a plot laid over months by his friends. One told *The Times*: "It was discussed at the Garrick Club in February and in two lunches at the *Spectator*." Oh, super. So the placard was put outside the house of God, apparently without any demur from the clergy (two reverends, two canons) assembled at St Giles-in-the-Fields. It would be nice to think they never saw it, but clerics are dreadfully wet these days; they are probably not in the business of spoiling the memorial service trade by bringing up all that embar-

Not a chance. Only we outsiders, at a distance, can read about the joke and murmur the only word that fits: pathetic. Osborne's feuds were pathetic while he lived, and it does his memory no service to prolong them. You don't mention people's bad breath or nose-picking at their obsequies; so why their feeble inability to forgive, or at least, for God's sake, forget?

Still, it serves as a useful reminder that all feuding is pathetic and infantile (indeed, the sort of thing that infants get kept in at play-time for, and made to tidy the art-cupboard). There is an absurd tendency to glorify grudges and feel that those who hold on to them are somehow fine fellows rather than petulant retards. A few pages on from the Osborne disgrace you might have read the outburst of Julie Burchill against her former friend and co-founder of *Modern Review*. She promised to destroy Toby Young's career. "Bald as a



LIBBY PURVES

coot... incredibly stupid... everybody hates him... he has no future here. He'll have to leave the country, like everyone else who falls out with me."

Oh no: not when there's Lord Gowrie reading the lesson and Dame Maggie Smith doing a bit of *Pilgrim's Progress* and a soprano belting out *Faust's* *Isle* to the massed intelligentsia. The Church of England, at its oleaginous worst, regularly lets celebrities get away with murder at these godless socialite services, and this was just the ultimate piece of irreverent, spiteful and tasteless theatrical campy that was bound to happen.

Nobody was there to round on this self-satisfied lot and say: "Look, if you want a memorial service in church, then behave like Christians. If we believe anything, we believe that our brother John Osborne has gone to a place far beyond earthly feuding. The fact that he and Albert Finney once had a row about royalties is not relevant in the face of the great mystery of death. Anyway, who are you to presume that the glorified John still hates anybody? In the clear dawn of eternity, all things are reconciled: even him and Nicholas de Jongh of the *London Evening Standard*. So take that sacrilegious thing down, or you can all go and do your dramatic readings on the pavement."

The more you think about this, the more nauseous becomes the spectacle of penitence, public, cliquey, self-satisfied feuding. Not clever, chaps: not clever at all.

IN FACT, it is downright hideous behaviour, the mark of the most spoilt coterie of a spoilt and decadent society. Meanwhile, Nelson Mandela can forgive the last years on Robben Island, the bereaved of the Irish conflict can bring themselves to work for peace and reconciliation; and this week a Palestinian and a Jew bring out a joint book. Uzi Mahnaimi was an Israeli spy-master. Bassam Abu-Sharif is the Palestinian hijacker who trained Carlos the Jackal and was appallingly maimed by a Mossad parcel-bomb. They call themselves friends today, and write for reconciliation.

The more you think about this, the more nauseous becomes the spectacle of penitence, public, cliquey, self-satisfied feuding. Not clever, chaps: not clever at all.

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Matthew Parris



■ However far away evil may be, the media bring it home to us — and gives the impression it's all around

Bank Station being a terminus of the Docklands Light Railway, trains wait, doors open. I was on one. From the passage to the platform came a woman's voice: "Help! Please, somebody help me!"

Everybody in the carriage sprang up and ran towards the sound. We didn't stop to calculate the danger, or the risk of missing our train. Though apparently synchronised, each acted alone, instinctively. Isn't this how almost all of us would react?

In fact there was no need. The shouts came from a woman in no danger, but mentally ill. We returned sheepishly to our train and our newspapers. In my mind was one of those articles — you see them all the time — about someone being attacked "in broad daylight" without anyone coming to his aid. I must say these stories seldom ring true. Journalists do not invent them, but surrounding circumstances which might explain bystanders' apparent callousness are left out — precisely because they do explain. The story of an unbelievably

calculus public is too good to check. But I have not noticed it — no, not even in London. Everywhere I see people handing money to beggars and buskers, helping tourists. If you ask for help, complete strangers will often go to some trouble. I am

sceptical whether medieval or Victorian or Edwardian London was a kinder place. Soon after my Bank experience, I was on a bus in the Outer Hebrides. A mother boarded with a youth who seemed harmless but a bit simple. They travelled to the end of the bus route and then (like me) straight back again. She was taking him for a bus ride, for fun. On alighting she paid for her ticket but the driver turned a blind eye to her boy. A decent, common-sense human act.

And I know this flies in the face of the wisdoms we like to murmur, but I doubt if people in the Hebrides are as different as we think from people in London. I doubt if the world is getting much worse, or any better. When, then, the impression of a nation of 56 million hurtling towards moral disintegration? We read about it every day some new, appalling story of evil or folly. Our news media present us with a nation we simply don't recognise in those around us: friends, street or neighbourhood. There is, in Mr Major's phrase, a disjunction.

I have a theory about this disjunction. It is that we human beings, as intellects, can count to 56 million and more, and with our brains calculate in every kind of number. But that as animals we cannot really comprehend the idea of more fellow-beings than we could

live with in a familiar tribe. We say things like "one-and-a-half million people" but we have little feel for what that means. We really just think "a lot".

The fact that two or three hundred people will be killed on the roads this month sounds horrific to us. We can picture two or three hundred bodies. Carnage. We cannot understand that 300 is not many, because we have no mental grip on the number 56 million: the national pool from which they will be drawn.

Lotteries and insurance companies trade carnally on the problems people have with grasping big numbers. We know the chance of winning the lottery (or finding your house burnt down) is very small, but — well, you still might.

Tell people, however, that you are less likely to win the lottery than to walk up to a stranger in the street and correctly guess his telephone number; or that the chance of your house burning down is smaller than the chance of your dying of natural causes while waiting for the insurance payout — and they begin to see the size of it.

I think that in our heads we are all living on a Hebridean island, or in a village. Our universe is populated by the only numbers we really know: the scope of our comprehension, a few hundred. When news reaches us

of human wickedness, its prevalence within the universe is calculated (unconsciously) against the framework of those modest numbers. So if someone is beaten up in broad daylight and no one helps, or a ring of child-molesting devil-worshippers is uncovered, or an old lady is raped by a drug-crazed youth, then it is clear that our village (or island) is going from bad to worse.

Just one such wickedness just once in a decade would after all be a dismaying statistic in a village of 200. But in a population of 56 million, a few incidents like this are incomparably less significant. And although assented to intellectually, this is never emotionally grasped. In the world as a whole, a child-molesting, drug-crazed, devil-worshipping youth is raping an old lady at any hour of the day. It doesn't mean very much.

With increasing comprehensiveness and in ever greater detail, our news media bring us reports of evil gathered from the whole population. But we are reading the *Daily Mirror* as though it were the parish magazine.

It is not. Despite millennial hot air about the moral disintegration of modern Britain, the people on that Docklands train differ from the people on that Hebridean bus in only the most marginal ways.

Don't assume that an old English gentleman's historic culture means he is behind the times

Tradition and the innovative talent

almost everything has happened again and again back to a distant past, and will happen again and again, into a distant future.

I was reminded on this occasion of seeing Geoffrey Waldegrave himself at the funeral of a neighbouring landowner, Baynton Hippisley, in 1956. Then Geoffrey was wearing a bowler hat; in the 1990s no one still wears bowler hats, so far as I could see. Otherwise little had changed.

Like Geoffrey Waldegrave himself, Baynton Hippisley demonstrated that this highly traditional culture, in which one could almost stretch out a hand and touch the earlier centuries, can still produce very useful men, and very modern men at that. In Somerset we believe that Baynton Hippisley personally won the First World War. He came from a family with an engineering and scientific talent; his grandfather had been a Fellow of the Royal Society. Baynton was an early pioneer of radio research; in 1913 he was appointed a member of the Parliamentary Commission on Wireless for the Army. When war broke out in 1914 he joined Naval Intelligence and was made a commander. He was the man who solved the problem of listening to the U-boats when they were talking to each other on the radio, by devising a double-tuning device which simultaneously identified the waveband and the precise wavelength. That, it is said, was essential to clearing the

Western Approaches in late 1917, when American troops were coming over. Baynton Hippisley sat in Gooch listening to the U-boat captains as they chatted happily to each other in clear German; he told the destroyers where to find them; the food and the Americans got through.

There was, so far as I know, nothing comparably dramatic in Geoffrey Waldegrave's life, though he fought in the Second World War. He was remembered at his funeral as he had been in his later years, as something

cheesemaking business, he went on to become a reforming chairman of the Forestry Commission in the 1960s, he modernised the management of the Duchy of Cornwall estate when he was Lord Warden of the Stannaries for ten years in the 1960s and 1970s. When he was young everyone realised that he was a moderniser, indeed Somerset people rather feared him for that, particularly after he had pulled down his own house, Chewton Priory, which had suffered equally from the Victorian building mania and dry rot. Yet if a man is a 12th earl, a Knight of the Garter, and has been Warden of the Stannaries he will not in his eighties be seen as a modernising manager, but more as a romantic relic.

William Rees-Mogg

of a historic, almost a feudal, figure. That does not entirely miss his character, but it misses the main point of his life. He succeeded his father as a young man in 1936, and inherited an old-fashioned and rather run-down estate, which in the 19th century had been pillaged by the extravagant countess, who was said to have died owing £20,000 to her fishmonger.

At heart, Geoffrey was a young moderniser. He modernised his estate, he became a pioneer manager of woodlands, he founded the successful

My own experience has been that the very ancient culture of Somerset is a fertile soil for developing such very practical and innovative qualities. The common view is that a strongly traditional society with a sense of history inhibits the energy and imagination that make for the best response to changes in the world. The Somerset people I have known do not at all bear that out. There could not be, for instance, a more deeply traditional Somerset family than the Showers, winning their first prizes for sparkling perry in the old-fashioned flower-shows of the 1930s, but using their sparkling perry to

dominate the brand name business in the competitive British drinks trade of the 1960s. Somerset's great intellectual figures, such as Roger Bacon, the earliest English scientist, or John Locke, the greatest of English philosophers, were also innovators, men who changed the history of human thought. Of course there are other English counties which have similar deep historic traditions, but Somerset can stand as a representative for them as well. The question is whether the ancient English traditions are now a help or a hindrance to us. Do they still nourish our development as a nation, or would we be better off without them?

If he had not been an earl, Geoffrey Waldegrave would have been seen more clearly for what by temperament he was, a very practical and innovative man. Even in his later years he was a vigorous chairman of the Wells Cathedral Appeal, climbing scaffolding, cajoling donors, putting his energy into restoring the cathedral. The difference was that he gave more than half his life to public service. Few, even of the best managers, do that. His traditions included this strong sense of public duty.

Yet the history does all reach back, century behind century. The Waldegraves have owned their Chewton estate for half a millennium; the estate can be traced back before them to Anglo-Saxon times. Their land stretches to Priddy, that most mysterious of the Mendip villages. The myth is that Joseph of Arimathea brought Jesus to Priddy as a youth when he was buying Mendip lead as a Phoenician merchant. "As sure as Christ was at Priddy," is a local saying. Such deep roots strengthen the Somerset people, and improve rather than inhibit their powers in practical life.

The sinking state of welfare

Peter Riddell on two views of how the public's rising expectations might be met

British politics has too few informed iconoclasts. Most politicians are happy to foster the public's belief that it can have both ever-expanding public services and tax cuts. That has now been questioned, not just by the Tory Right in imitation of Newt Gingrich's "Contract with America", but also by those always stimulating challengers of party orthodoxy, Robert Skidelsky and Frank Field.

The Government claims that improved efficiency, through market-based reforms, will allow universal provision to be maintained while it restrains the growth of spending sufficiently to permit tax cuts. Labour's response has been opaque. In its dash for respectability, the party has been ultra-cautious, saying that extra spending on services can be found from savings elsewhere, cutting back on the tax breaks of the rich and "as resources permit".

Lord Skidelsky believes this is a mere illusion. The demand for better education and health is rising faster than national income, and can never be met by the State. There is obvious public resistance to paying higher taxes. Structural changes in health, education and other public services may help. But Skidelsky argues that no amount of supply-side reform or efficiency savings will bridge the gap between expectations and reality and enable increased demand to be met entirely out of taxes.

At present, the Government antagonises providers of public services, while at best only slightly reducing the share of public spending in the economy in years of strong growth. Consequently, there are protests over class sizes, hospital closures and nurses' and teachers' pay. Money is not the whole answer — efficiency can



always be improved — but more money is part of the answer. As Skidelsky said in a recent Conservative Political Centre lecture, "We cannot simply go on squeezing the public services while hoping for miracles of productivity to raise standards. In education, improvements in quality imply declining productivity as conventionally measured — smaller classes per teacher, not larger ones. They are only two alternatives: to raise taxes or to inject private money into these services."

Left-wing critics of the Labour leaders' caution argue that the party should publicly admit that needed improvements in the welfare state will require higher taxes. But such candour is hardly appealing to those eager for office. The Liberal Democrats have talked of earmarking an extra penny on income tax for education. But this is fraught with

problems. There is generally no direct link between earmarked taxes and favoured programmes, nor any way a taxpayer can make a choice. Skidelsky's solution is to provide an outlet for the suppressed demand for better services. National education spending should not be limited by the public sector's ability to raise taxes. People are prepared to spend more for these services. On top of what they pay in taxes for state schools, better-off parents pay roughly twice as much for private education. But parents in the state system cannot pay more to improve their children's education, apart from fundraising for peripheral activities. Skidelsky's answer is to top up taxpayer-financed provision. This is already happening in the case of cash

benefits, with people increasingly supplementing the basic state pension with occupational and, with some hiccup, personal pensions.

The State, then, would finance a basic service, with everything else paid for by personal contributions. All schools would be allowed to charge fees, and parents would receive a voucher equivalent to the current per-pupil cost of state education, allowing for a top-up. (This solution is now favoured by Skidelsky's old adversary, John Patten, in his recent book, *Things to Come*.) Most parents would have to contribute something, which should make them more involved. There are problems with Skidelsky's scheme, such as how to prevent the creation of greater divisions, with inferior schools for the poor. But a voucher could be weighted in favour of poor families, or a larger grant could

be given to schools in poor areas. With the health service, the difficulties are even greater. I doubt whether Skidelsky's suggestion of vouchers for a fixed number of GP consultations per patient would work. The private sector could, however, have a greater role in financing care for the elderly, an area of growing concern for many middle-income families. In parallel with private pensions, people of working age could be encouraged to save, or insure, against healthcare costs in old age. This lies behind the proposals being considered by the Downing Street policy unit for retirement savings accounts.

Frank Field's starting point is different, but he too wants to tap the driving forces of self-interest, self-improvement and altruism. He deplores the effects of means tests in rewarding lying, cheating and deceit. Unusually as a Labour MP, he argues that there is no general support among taxpayers for redistribution to the poor. Rather, welfare should create an income floor to replace the income ceiling created by means-tested welfare. He proposes comprehensive insurance cover with flexible contributions, so that families can improve their own lot. A national insurance corporation (run by employers, employees and Government) and a private pensions corporation would oversee universal private provision, based on compulsory contributions. These bodies look too much like giant kangaroos, but the underlying idea of reviving personal involvement and contributions is appealing.

Peter Lilley has begun to face up to the limits of state provision in social security, but the dilemma has not been addressed in either education or health. Present policies will produce only growing frustration. The Skidelsky and Field proposals offer two ways out of the current political straitjacket. Private provision should be seen as a supplement to public services for the many, not an expensive alternative for a wealthy few. Everyone should be allowed to contribute more for services they want.

Frank Field's *Making Welfare Work* is published at £10 by the Institute of Community Studies, 18 Victoria Park Square, London E2 9PF.

Running on

OXFORD University's famous running track will be awash with nostalgia later this month at the 100th anniversary of the Oxford and Cambridge versus Harvard and Yale athletics match. The highlight at Iffley Road, where Roger Barnister became the first

man to run the mile in under four minutes, will surely be a veteran's race over the same distance involving his pacemakers for that 1954 triumph: Christopher Brasher and Chataway.

A host of former participants in the Transatlantic Series, the oldest



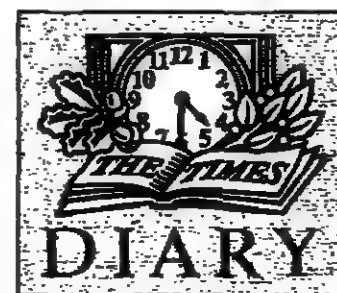
Brasher and Chataway making a splash

international match in the world, are converging for the gala on June 28, which will be followed the next day by a banquet at London's Guildhall. But the most keenly watched and competed event will surely feature Chataway, 64, now chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority, and Brasher, 67, the London Marathon supreme.

"More than 90 past participants in the series will be competing, including this famous pair," says organiser Pete Crawshaw. "They are down for the mile." Chataway is vague about whether or not he will be pulling on his spikes, and is unduly modest about his ability. On Sunday he runs in a 10km race at Cranfield University, which recently awarded him an honorary doctorate. "I shall trot round slowly in my old age. I run two or three times a week. Sometimes two miles, but I don't think ever more than 12 — that was when I lost the way. My last serious track race was in 1956. Maybe one or two of the older ladies will be in sight when I finish."

In truth, he is in good shape. A couple of years ago he ran a mile in 5 minutes, 36 seconds. "Not bad for my age," he admits.

It may have taken the Catholic Church four centuries to rehabilitate



Galileo after his excommunication for saying the Earth moved round the Sun, but it has not been slow to embrace the information superhighway. An "integrated services digital network" has been installed in the Catholic Communications Centre in London so that Cardinal Basil Hume can speak to the world without any background crackle.

Burmese daze

FURTHER to my note about the significant role played by mules in Burma during the Second World War, I have some additional details to impart. From a reader who was a member of the 2 Dorset Battalion in the Far East at the time.

"We once staged a mule Derby Day," he recalls, "but our mules

used to eat through their tethering ropes, so orders were given that we should get rid of them. Luckily we were reassured with donkeys, or we would have had to carry all the kit ourselves."

However, the donkeys did not come up to scratch either. "The men ended up carrying more than the donkeys. One man was actually seen carrying his donkey," the 63-year-old warhorse remembers.

Car doctor

SIMON HARRISON — who followed his grandfather Rex into the acting profession — has found his on-screen japes coming back to haunt him.

He is perhaps best known for his role as an accident-prone surgeon in the TV series *Surgical Spirit*. Shortly after an episode the other day in which his character took a driving lesson and ploughed into a vintage MG, he was preparing for the first night of *Good Morning Bill*, an adaptation of a P.G. Wodehouse novel, at the Palace Theatre, Watford, when he was on the receiving end.

"I was sitting at home having something to eat before the performance when I heard a huge crash," says Harrison. "I thought it was just the dustmen being particularly

noisy, but then a neighbour knocked on the door and asked if the red Escort was mine. Somebody had crashed into it. It was not what I needed on opening night."

Dues paid

LORD WILSON's dedication to his native county has earned him the highest posthumous honour. The Yorkshire Society is to place a plaque in his rosmory on Huddersfield Town Hall.

"He was one of our founder members and vice-president for a long time," says David Daniel of



PWH

the society. "He came to a lot of dinners over the years." Clearly the great man did not count the pennies in the way that some misinformed people cruelly suggest is characteristic of natives of the Ridings. "He always paid his subscription promptly and always paid considerably more than the going rate," says Daniel.

In the swim

PIERCE BROSNAN will be heading for his native Ireland for the first time in ten years this week — but not to see the people so much as to visit Fungi, a friendly dolphin on the Dingle peninsula in Co Kerry.

"Tomorrow is the last day of filming of the new James Bond film, *Goldfinger*. I'll be jumping about on a flying helicopter in Watford. Then we're off to Ireland. I can't wait," he said at Alfred Dunhill's Queen's Cup at the Guards Polo Club, Windsor, yesterday.

It will not be Brosnan's first brush with a dolphin. Last year he adopted a rare pink specimen of the species, which lives in waters off Hong Kong. "My girlfriend Keely persuaded me to do it. She's an environmental journalist," he explained.

P.H.S



FIREFLIES IN JUNE

Another Clinton policy is no sooner made than unmade

What seemed to be a decisive change in Bill Clinton's policy on Bosnia last week has again evaporated in a series of "clarifications" by appalled presidential aides, and a clumsy effort at backtracking by the President himself. Within days of Mr Clinton's apparently firm offer last Wednesday to use American ground troops to help the United Nations to "move and strengthen its forces if necessary", the suggestion has been quickly filleted of operational meaning — indeed of almost any meaning at all.

On Saturday, Mr Clinton asked Americans to believe that what he really meant was that US troops could be used for an "emergency extraction" of UN forces in dire trouble — although his promise to consult Congress first hardly suggests that the cavalry would arrive in time. At the UN, Madeleine Albright gamely attempted yesterday to make all this sound consistent, before reaching for the comforting conclusion that "it's highly unlikely that we will be asked". William Perry, the US Defence Secretary, has reverted to ruling out the use of ground forces other than to assist a total UN withdrawal — while offering the new rapid reaction force led by Britain and France an impressive range of weaponry.

What this flurry appears to signify is that Mr Clinton is now genuinely worried about appearing to leave America's close allies in the lurch in Bosnia, but still more worried that the first American casualty, seized on by a hostile Congress, would doom his hopes of re-election. With America firmly committed to participate in Nato's strategy for an Unprofor withdrawal, both these considerations inclined him to offer tactical US support for a strengthened UN mission. But as so often with this most changeable of Presidents, his latest wish of resolve evaporated halfway down Pennsylvania Avenue, blown away by congressional muttering.

Where Bosnia is concerned, that may be all to the good. The Bosnian Serbs, aware that Americans react with near-hysteria to the very thought of hostage-taking, would have made it their business to take American prisoners at the first opportunity.

But as a further instance of Mr Clinton's fruitless quest for a formula that takes the risk out of world leadership, it must worry and exasperate America's allies.

Precisely because American decisions have wider impact than those of most governments, all American Presidents come under fire from abroad. European diplomats and politicians have complained for years about the difficulty of discovering who in Washington was really in charge of foreign policy — the White House, the President's National Security Adviser, the State Department or even, when crises abroad inflame the 20-year-old battle over the War Powers Act, the US Congress. Given the tortuous workings of America's constitutional checks and balances between executive and legislature, much always depends on individuals. But the Clinton Administration is harder to fathom than its predecessors, because it lacks even the beginnings of an internal consensus about America's place in the world.

Domestic opinion will always shape foreign policy: it should not preclude its formulation. The President who came to office saying that Americans must manage change "lest it engulf us" gives every appearance of being engulfed. His attention to foreign policy is at best episodic: witness his failure to attend a White House briefing on Bosnia last week which he himself had demanded. That would matter less if a Kissinger were there to do the job; but in the Clinton Administration, no such individual exists. There is internal feuding not only on Bosnia, but on dealing with Russia and China, on the future of Nato and even on trade. There is no need for America to use its military power everywhere in the world. But that does not alter the fact that influence depends not just on its economic strength, but on its perceived willingness to stand by its commitments to international security. The post-Cold War world may need subtler forms of deterrence; but it needs them nonetheless. Last week Mr Clinton seemed for a moment to have remembered this. But only for a moment.

SAFER THAN HOUSES

What Britain needs is a stable housing market

Strung by the anger he found last week when he blamed borrowers for the housing boom of the 1980s, John Major seems determined to make amends. The No 10 policy unit is reportedly concocting plans to float house prices off the sandbanks. The Prime Minister should be wary of embarking on yet another misjudged gamble in housing policy.

Much of the grumbling on the dolesteps during the local election campaign was related to the state of the housing market — for which the Government, as well as borrowers and lenders, must take a share of the blame. Only recently have ministers woken up to the effect of past housing policies on their electoral fortunes. Economic growth, it seems, is not enough to make people feel good; the housing market must revive as well. The options under consideration apparently include tax relief for those with negative equity, a reduction in stamp duty, help for first-time buyers, and a rethink of the new proposals on payment of mortgage interest for the unemployed.

It is negative equity that is most electorally damaging. More than a million voters are saddled with unsecured and unanticipated debt. They cannot move house unless they take out an expensive personal loan to cover the difference between the value of the property and the mortgage itself. But any help for these people is fraught with difficulties. First, they are hard to identify: only when they try to move house is the size of their negative equity clear. But more important is the inequity of this proposal. Hundreds of thousands of people have already paid off their negative equity and traded down to a smaller property. How could the Government justify not extending

help to the strugglers? And there are millions of people who have lost money on their properties, but were responsible enough to save for a decent deposit in the first place.

The hunt is on, then, for a policy that relieves the pain of negative equity without inflicting an equal or greater number of voters. Other ideas aim to stimulate house prices so that the deficits disappear. Reducing stamp duty would be expensive and not particularly effective, judging by the experience of 1992. Going back on the mortgage interest proposals for the unemployed would be thoroughly sensible, but politically embarrassing. Offering help to first-time buyers may prove to be the easiest policy; but it would be expensive and no less misguided than the others.

The main problem with Britain's housing market has always been that people start to buy long before they need to settle down. They have bought for fear of prices rising beyond their reach. The result has been a torpid private rented sector and an inflexible labour market. Artificially boosting first-time buyer demand could revive this cycle.

The surest way to improve confidence without reactivating the worst habits of British housebuyers is to keep real interest rates low. This policy would be electorally popular and cost-free to the Treasury. Moreover, as a report from Morgan Grenfell confirms today, house prices are last expected to rise sensibly, roughly in line with inflation. The Government should be hoping that the recession has changed housebuyer psychology, so that prices will no longer follow the pattern of unsustainable boom followed by painful bust. Nothing could be better for the long-term health of the economy.

MAESTRO MUTI

How one man and his piano saved La Scala from fiasco

A man in his time plays many parts. Few, however, play all of them at once — and certainly not at La Scala, where even the gods must compete for attention. But a lightning strike by the orchestra minutes before the curtain rose on *La Traviata* left the audience incandescent and the honour of the world's most celebrated opera house at risk. Riccardo Muti, with the spontaneity and daring for which the greatest conductors are noted, stepped into the breach, sat down at the piano and for two hours accompanied all the singers for La Scala's first production of Verdi's masterpiece in 25 years. His heroic *tour de force* won him prolonged and tumultuous applause.

The audience was rewarding not just his protection of their investment — up to £9,000 for a box — but also his daring. Opera is the sublime synthesis of music, voice and drama: to attempt it at all without all these vital components is to risk banality. Most big companies have suffered last-minute crises: the loss of a diva, the indisposition of a first violin, a fit of pique by the maestro. On stage, things also go wrong: scenery collapses, the fake swords fail to open or the music itself suffers a total implosion. Improvisation has often had to see the company through.

Opera has gone ahead without any

scenery, with no chorus or with last-minute substitutes on stage and in the pit. But rarely, if ever, has it continued with no orchestra at all. The failure by the apdy named Sandro Malatesta, a trumpet player and secretary of the Federation of Entertainment Workers, to enforce silence in what is the more famous of Milan's two great cathedrals bodes ill for organised labour in the creative arts. The enraged audience hurled anathemas at the absent players — "Thieves, clowns, sack the lot of them" — and probably gave the indebted opera house managers a good idea for a permanent reduction in costs.

La Scala revels in its reputation for making or breaking the best. Well might Pavarotti's large frame have trembled when the unthinkable boogie began as his voice displayed doubts on the higher notes. No star is too distant, no luminary too bright to escape the searing gaze of the Milanese. But while the players must now wonder whether they dare ever to grace a fashionable café again, Maestro Muti's reputation will surely soar to new heights. If he can now use this momentary magic to end the cantankerous discord that has brought the great opera house to the verge of financial ruin, he will be remembered as the saviour of La Scala for more than just an evening.

British Gas and its responsibilities to shareholders

From Mr Peter Ingram

Sir, Your editorial, "Sid turns up the heat" (June 1), is correct to call on institutional shareholders to "exercise their muscle" (letters, June 2). As you point out, shareholders "in their thousands" were present at British Gas's annual general meeting, yet the block votes held by the institutions prevailed, avoiding a damaging vote of no confidence in the company's management.

Alternatively, the process of corporate governance in Britain might be better served if the institutional shareholders sought to offer guidance and restraint to prevent such potentially contentious issues arising in the first place.

In the light of recent experience the public mood has toughened. The views of the Government and the establishment of the Greenbury committee reflect this change. If institutional shareholders wish to operate in the best interests of the corporate sector and the millions of individuals they represent through pension funds, executive remuneration should be coordinated at this level.

Given the diversified nature of their shareholdings, it is at the level of the institutional investor that the externality of the executive pay league and excessive salary increases, which are frequently fuelled by comparison rather than performance, might best be controlled. A judicious application of gentle "muscle" of this nature is now due.

Yours faithfully,
PETER INGRAM,
University of Surrey,
Department of Economics,
Guildford, Surrey GU2 5XH.
June 2.

From the Director of Corporate Affairs, British Gas

Sir, In your leader you refer to "defeat" for Sid. In fact a relatively small proportion of our 1.8 million shareholders actually came to the AGM, and only 11.5 per cent of the small shareholders cast their vote via proxy. Putting it another way, 88.5 per cent of them, representing well over 1.5 million, decided not to vote, which they were able to do if they had wanted to vote against the motion. Hardly a defeat for "millions of Sids".

The results of the poll have been published today. Over half the total shares were voted and Cedric Brown was supported by 97.6 per cent in

favour of his re-election. The board's rationale for Mr Brown's basic pay was not based on the example of other big gas companies.

As we have stated on numerous occasions, the comparison was made with other FTSE 100 companies which did include international UK companies. However, our major competitor in the world is Enron, in the United States, whose chief executive is paid nine times as much as Mr Brown. These facts are on the record as evidence to the Employment Select Committee.

Furthermore, to describe British Gas as "a monopoly" is very misleading. Twenty-eight per cent of our profits are now accounted for by Exploration & Production, which is bigger than the oil companies Lasso and Enterprise put together.

Over half the UK market for gas has already been opened up to competition, and 65 per cent of this market is supplied by companies other than British Gas as a result of regulatory controls.

The domestic market, comprising the other half of the total market, will be opened up for competition, commencing in the South West next year, with full competition in 1998 once the Gas Bill receives Royal Assent.

As our chairman explained at the AGM, we believe we have brought our pay structure into line with current best practice. Nevertheless we will listen very carefully to our shareholders as well as shareholder representative bodies.

Where we have a lack of consensus or clarity on best practice, we have taken decisions based on what is most appropriate for us at this time. We will continue to monitor this evolution and, if and when necessary, we can adapt.

Yours sincerely,
PETER SANGUINETTI,
Director of Corporate Affairs,
British Gas,
Riverside House,
152 Grosvenor Road, SW1.
June 2.

From Mr C. J. H. Edenborough

Sir, The only way that British Gas can regain any credibility is for an extraordinary general meeting to be called at which the institutional shareholders should justify their behaviour in backing the board before the minority shareholders. I am sure that if any of those institutional shareholders had been present and

witnessed the feelings of the small shareholders they may have felt that what they were doing was not so clever after all.

Yours faithfully,
COURTNEY EDENBOROUGH
(Shareholder),
Wyndrift,
Ashley Green, Buckinghamshire,
June 2.

From Mr M. J. Webb

Sir, Socialism has done much to improve its image by changing its attitude to the block vote and Clause Four. On the other hand, the "unacceptable face of capitalism" was presented to the nation at the recent shareholders' meeting of British Gas when the great majority of shareholders present were defeated in their attempt to influence the board of directors by the block vote of major players — ie. pension fund managers, etc.

Intriguingly, the funds these managers invest in some cases come from the same organisations that once wielded the block vote to decide conference and party matters.

Can this same power be used to help influence future decisions of shareholders? It surely would be preferable to encouraging their members to seek the same generous improvement in remuneration for themselves.

Yours sincerely,
MAURICE WEBB,
Smiddy House, Auchencrow,
Eymouth, Berwickshire,
June 2.

From Mr Gordon Philo

Sir, Mr Richard Giordano, the chairman of British Gas, says (report, June 1) his board deserves the going rate. They have the rate. When are they going?

Yours etc,
GORDON PHILO,
10 Abercorn Close, NW8.

From Mr A. C. O. Fergusson

Sir, There is one answer to the direct-general of Ofgas, Clare Spontis-wood's, request (report, June 1) for a 65 per cent pay rise which would solve the problem, and greatly increase Mr Heseltine's standing nationally: "No."

I am, etc.
ALEXANDER FERGUSSON,
Alton Albany,
Barr, Girvan, Ayrshire,
June 2.

Concern at China's new genetic law

From Professor John Burn and others

Sir, We wish to record our concern over measures in the Law of the People's Republic of China on Maternal and Infant Health Care, which came into effect on June 1.

In order to enforce measures aimed at reducing morbidity associated with genetic diseases and malformations, it makes permission to marry dependent upon an agreement by "carriers of genetic disorders" to undergo sterilisation or adopt permanent contraceptive measures (Article 10).

The official translation of Article 16 implies that couples will be obliged to undergo therapeutic termination of pregnancy if a previous child was abnormal.

Quite apart from the difficulties associated with reaching a correct diagnosis, this is an undignified embodiment of eugenic principles the implementation of which has had such a disastrous history in the West.

We recognise the great success of the Chinese people in meeting the

challenges of healthcare in their population and applaud their efforts to improve the health of mothers and children and to provide genetic services. But a balance is needed between cultural autonomy and fundamental human rights.

We urge the People's Congress to re-examine Articles 10 and 16 so as to enable parents to continue to exercise a choice on whether to agree to termination of pregnancy and whether to accept permanent childlessness.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BURN
(Secretary, Clinical Genetics Society),
PATRICIA A. JACOBS
(President),
A. C. BERRY, C. B. MODELL,
C. PATCH, BRYAN SYKES
(Members of the society's
Standing Committee on Ethics),
As from:
University of Newcastle upon Tyne,
19-20 Claremont Place,
Newcastle upon Tyne,
June 2.

Botanical painting

From Mrs Eve Reid Bennett

Sir, I have no quarrel with John Russell Taylor's statement that botanical painting is art in the service of science ("Selling it with flowers", Arts, May 24), but I was dismayed at his singling out of Elizabeth Blackadder as a painter of "perfect precision".

While the flower paintings of my fellow-Scott are fine examples of the water colourist's art, they cannot be said to serve the needs of the botanist. There are very many excellent and confident botanical artists working today and it is a great pity that the exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum does not make this point. In no way can it be said that "the story peters out".

Yours faithfully,
EVE REID BENNETT
(Tutor in botanical painting),
Royal Botanic Garden,
20a Inverleith Row, Edinburgh 3.
May 29.

From Ms Ruth Boulton

Sir, Simon Brooke ("Why do they always make Tories swine?", June 1) seems to attribute the fact that television programmes present Tory MPs as self-serving, ruthlessly ambitious and "sexually avaricious monsters" chiefly to bias by left-wing programme makers.

Isn't it more a case that "the cap fits"?

Yours etc,
RUTH BOULTON,
56 Harvist Road,
Queen's Park, NW6.
June 1.

From Mr J. B. Mackinney

Sir, For Philip Howard's information (article, May 26) "grown-up rounders" is not baseball: it is called rounders.

Best wishes,
BRIAN MACKINNEY
(National Development Officer,
National Rounders Association),
3 Denehurst Avenue, Nottingham.
June 1.

Attempt to curb cost of litigation

From Mr Adrian A. S. Zuckerman

Sir, Mr Malcolm Swift, QC, attacks the Lord Chancellor for his proposal to introduce performance indicators for lawyers (letter, May 31). He writes, "who is to judge performance? Who will decide whether the sentence imposed was better or worse than expected...?"

He is right. As things stand there are no measures for judging the quality value of legal services. This would not be so bad if lawyers had an interest in serving their clients as economically and expeditiously as possible.

But notwithstanding Mr Swift's assertion of the independence of the legal profession, lawyers do have a financial interest in litigation. Since solicitors (and increasingly barristers too) are paid on an hourly basis regardless of outcome, the more complex and the more lengthy legal proceedings are, the more they earn.

In the absence of a system that encourages lawyers to economise or to compete, litigation is bound to stay complex, lengthy and expensive. The Lord Chancellor's solution to the problem may not be the right one. But he should certainly be congratulated for at least attempting to rein in the exorbitant cost of litigation.

Yours truly,
ADRIAN ZUCKERMAN
(Fellow in Law),
University College, Oxford,
June 1.

Bosnian crisis

From Mr Lionel Bloch

Sir, Watching the Government's handling of the Bosnian crisis reminds me of the image of Shiva, the many-headed Hindu deity.

On one hand, we will not take sides in the conflict on the other, we will have to let the Serbs provoke us further.

On one hand, our mission is a purely humanitarian one — on the other, humanity may have to be defended by force of arms.

On one hand, it is not our policy to withdraw — on the other, we may have to, if our troops are exposed to serious danger.

Confronted with this formidable array of caveats, riders, qualifications and reservations, it is hardly surprising that the Bosnian Serbs behave as they do.

Yours faithfully,
LIONEL BLOCH,
9 Wimpole Street, W1.
June 1.

From Mr Chris Young

Sir, I wonder if it has occurred to the Bosnian Serbs that one can only detain troops as "prisoners of war" when a state of war exists. In terms of the detained UN troops thus, the Bosnian Serbs have declared that a state of war exists between themselves and the United Nations.

I am mystified as to how their leadership thinks that a declaration of war of this nature will reduce the likelihood of attack by the UN.

Yours sincerely,
CHRIS YOUNG,
1a Woodbury,
Castle Road, Woking, Surrey.

From Mrs Daisy E. Finney

Sir, So the Serbs did the obvious. What happened to contingency planning?

Yours faithfully,
DAISY E. FINNEY,
207 Hampstead Way, NW11.

Legal minefield

From Police Inspector Peter Dolphin

Sir, Joe Reeve, who laid a firecracker "minefield" in his garden after suffering a spate of burglaries (report and photographs, June 2), need not fall foul of the law if he sticks to Section 31 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861.

This declares that it is not unlawful "to set or place... from sunset to sunrise, any spring-gun, man-trap, or other engine... in a dwelling house for the protection thereof". The section is headed "Setting spring-guns, etc. with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm".

This, according to current law books, is still the law.

Yours,
PETER DOLPHIN,
12 Sonning Way,
Shoeburyness, Essex,
June 2.

Living for today

From Dr Edward Petch

Sir, I have just arrived in my thirties, and can now adopt my 60-year-old father's philosophy which is similar to that of Mr William Folkes (letter, June 1): never do today what I can put off until tomorrow because by then someone else might have done it.

My father should not put it off until tomorrow any longer, and now that he is retired he can also do it for me, so that I can put it off until tomorrow, because by then he will have done it.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD PETCH,
108 Agar Grove,
St Pancras, NW1.
June 1.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-752 5046.

OBITUARIES

DILYS POWELL

Dilys Powell, film critic, died on June 3 aged 93. She was born on July 20, 1901.

DILYS POWELL's first weekly film review appeared in *The Sunday Times* on March 26, 1939, her last, about the movies on television this week, only yesterday. She was almost certainly the oldest working journalist in Britain, if not the world, and for most of that time she was one of the most influential film critics and one of the most highly regarded inside and outside the film industry.

In 1972 she was the first to spot the potential of a then unknown director, Steven Spielberg, from a made-for-television film, *Duet*, and her enthusiasm persuaded Warner Brothers to give that film a cinema release. She was also the first leading critic to recognise Clint Eastwood's gifts both as an actor and as a director.

In 1960, reviewing Peter O'Toole's third film, *The Day They Robbed the Bank of England*, she wrote: "Peter O'Toole looks like being a gift to the British cinema... his performance as a young Guards officer drags one's attention away from more familiar faces."

Writing about *Billy Liar* three years later she wrote: "... as the delectable girlfriend, Julie Christie makes an impression of coyness, charm and the promise of an actress."

She described *A Hard Day's Night* (1964) as: "Deafening of course. But it really is restoring to find in the British cinema, apt to waver between devoted amateurism and mad polish, the seeming spontaneity of this exercise in anarchy."

Of *The Railway Children* (1970) she wrote: "The green English countryside comports itself as the landscape of childhood should comport itself. It smiles."

Elizabeth Powell was born only a few months after the death of Queen Victoria. She was the daughter of a Bournemouth bank manager and her childhood was spent in the comfortable ambience of that South Coast resort.

From Bournemouth High School for Girls she won a scholarship to Somerville College, Oxford, where she shone brilliantly, writing for *Isis*, and attracting attention in the national press after her rustication, imposed for climbing in following a late-night assignment with an undergraduate at Christ Church. He was Henry Payne, later a distinguished archaeologist, and in 1926 she married him.

Her *Sunday Times* career began long before her first film review in 1939. She joined the newspaper four years after graduating with first-class honours in modern languages from Somerville in 1924. Initially she had worked as Lady Ottoline Morrell's secretary and literary assistant, and years later was upset by the caricature by Eleanor Bron in Ken Russell's film *Women in Love*. She recognised, though, that this was not the fault of the director or the actress but was far more the responsibility of D.H. Lawrence, whose portrait of



Lady Ottoline in his novel she described as "a savage travesty".

When her husband was appointed Director of the British School of Archaeology in Athens, she left her full-time job in the literary department of *The Sunday Times*, although she continued to contribute book reviews. Her years in Greece inspired a passion, and one of her greatest deprivations in later years was her inability to make her regular pilgrimages after her body had become too frail.

Payne died suddenly in 1936, and was buried at Mycenae. Dilys Powell wrote movingly of him and her beloved Greece in several books, including *The Traveller's Journey Is Done* (1943) and *An Affair Of The Heart* (1957), in which she described vividly the shock of her first visit there after his death, made in 1945 when the country was torn apart by civil war and internal strife.

She rejoined *The Sunday Times* in 1936, and in the spring of 1939, when the film critic Sydney Carroll suddenly left to become the Editor of the *Daily Sketch*, she was asked to take over his column. Her interest in cinema went back to childhood when she had watched the Westerns of William S. Hart and "Bronco Billy" Anderson in Bournemouth, and at Oxford, where she frequently visited a little cinema behind Somerville.

Readers quickly noticed that she brought a freshness and enthusiasm to her reviewing that had been absent in her predecessor's work.

Although Fleet Street editors then, as now, tended to hold film reviewing in lower esteem than theatre and opera because it was a medium of mass entertainment, at *The Observer* C.A. Lejeune had been firmly established since 1928. Throughout the Second World War and until Lejeune's retirement in 1960, the two women reigned as joint *donnas* of the Sunday broadsheets. Where Caroline Lejeune was tart and funny, often at her best when ridiculing bad films, Dilys Powell strove to be truthful and always to explain why she thought a film was good or bad.

Her wrath was rare, usually emerging only when animals were ill-used. Their differences in style were even noted on the screen itself. In a dinner party scene in the frothy Wilton-Neale comedy of 1948, *Spring In Park Lane*, Peter Graves, playing a cinema idol, says of his last performance: "Of course Caroline didn't like it, but Dilys went absolutely overboard."

War-time newspapers were small, and *The Sunday Times* had a mere eight, sometimes only six, pages which imposed strenuous disciplines on its journalists. Her elegant but unadorned style with its scalpel

precision, was shaped in these conditions. In wartime she also began to broadcast her views on films on the BBC radio, and her attractively modulated voice became familiar to listeners, some of whom were far from home but close to military cinemas where they could see the films she endorsed.

In 1943 she remarried. Her second husband was Leonard Russell, associate editor and chief literary editor of *The Sunday Times*, and their flat-fronted, early-Victorian house in Albion Street, near Marble Arch, became a salon for fine conversation and glittering company in the postwar period. Although she was shy, she always enjoyed the company of friends to whom she was kind, generous and unfailingly loyal.

As a critic she was indefatigable. She never hesitated to tread unfamiliar paths as the cinema diversified in strange directions. She would often cover obscure films that other critics had ignored, and many independent film-makers had cause to be grateful to her for tracking down and writing about their work. She always wrote sanely and sympathetically out of a completely open mind, unswayed by a remarkable degree by fashion, and affected not at all by the preconceptions that might have seemed natural to one of her generation.

She never knew or wanted to know how a film was made. She had no interest in camera angles or editing processes. She told Dirk Bogarde: "I don't care how it's moved, cut, what angles are used... Perhaps that is why I am so uncluttered. I am really the child with the magic lantern. Don't tell me how they lit the lamp. Just let me be enthralled."

In her later years she astonished younger journalists with her imperiousness as she would sit through scenes of torrid love-making against pounding Heavy Metal soundtracks. She sometimes would discover merit in the most unpromising contexts. Her preferred position was the centre of the front row, where the screen's size was big enough to engulf her.

In 1976, two years after she had been widowed again, she ceased to review the week's new films. She was by then ten years over the notional retirement age for staff journalists and the writer designated to succeed her was waiting impatiently for her to vacate her post. Initially the Editor, Harry Evans, took her to lunch with the hope of getting her to agree that, in view of her age, it was perhaps time for her to call it a day.

However, she resolutely failed to take the hint, merely thanking him for taking such an interest in her work. Frustrated, Evans eventually felt forced in one fell swoop to purge several other elderly critics, including Sir Harold Hobson and Desmond Shawe-Taylor. Dilys Powell returned from holiday to learn that she had one week left. Before she had had time to open her mail, a concerned colleague phoned. When he asked if she had opened her letters, she coolly replied: "Why? Have I got the sack?"

Her departure provoked many

protests from readers, led by Dirk Bogarde. Geoffrey Smith, having recently been appointed arts editor, sensed Evans's embarrassment and created a new column for her in which she could comment on the films to be shown that week on television. It was in that area of the newspaper that she worked for the rest of her life, addressing a far larger audience than ever attended the cinema.

Nevertheless, in 1979 she was invited to become the film critic of *Punch*, and resumed her regular attendance at press shows, contributing a weekly review until the magazine's enforced closure in 1992.

In the summer of 1988, after a fall, she endured a hip operation, and although she was back to her manual typewriter in only six weeks, she found mobility increasingly difficult. Her progress to her seat at screenings was a steady affair, and she would politely but firmly decline offers of assistance.

Although she never converted to the electronic revolution in print journalism, preferring to stay with manual typing, neatly annotating her corrections with a fine ballpoint, she adhered to deadlines with meticulous conscientiousness, and her copy required the minimum of sub-editing.

She became very ill last summer and after a spell in hospital was confined to a wheelchair. She withstood a series of strokes with astonishing resilience, although each imposed more damage on her frail body. Her extraordinary willpower gave her an extra year and, even at the end, she strove to cling to a life that had been full and fulfilled.

As well as being a newspaper journalist Dilys Powell was an accomplished broadcaster. She was a regular participant in the BBC radio programme *The Critics* and its Radio 3 successor *Critics' Forum* as well as the series *My Word*.

In 1974 she was appointed CBE. She served on the board of the British Film Institute, 1948-52, and on the Independent Television Authority, 1954-57. She was president of the Classical Association, 1966-67.

She was a pillar of the Critics' Circle and inspired the establishment, in 1956, of the London Film Festival. In 1991 the Dilys Powell Award was instituted as the Critics' Circle Film Section's highest honour for those whose contribution to cinema has been outstanding.

The recipients have been Sir Dirk Bogarde, who appreciatively recalled her "spot-on" comment, "Given too little to do, Mr Bogarde does far too much," the triple-Oscar winning cinematographer, Freddie Young, the actor Christopher Lee, and most recently Lord Aidenborough who, at this year's awards ceremony last March, spoke of her generosity and movingly recalled that the encouragement she had given him as a young actor had supplied the impetus for him to make a career in British cinema.

Dilys Powell had no children. She is survived by her nephew.

GEOFFREY WATTS

Geoffrey Watts, engineer and international businessman, died on May 3 aged 73. He was born on August 26, 1921.



GEOFFREY WATTS never fitted the conventional picture of the British businessman. For one thing, he was professionally qualified in his own right as a mechanical engineer; for another, and even more to the point, the forging ground for his successful boardroom career was not London or even the provinces but rather the wide open spaces of East and Central Africa. He developed remarkable skills in management and finance and became a director of more than 60 highly successful companies, of which he was chairman of 16.

Geoffrey Alan Howard Watts was born on a family farm at Awre, Gloucestershire, and at the age of five he was already accompanying his father to management meetings, particularly those of the family business which was one of the largest employers in the area. His sole ambition, as he grew up, was to go into business and he made a point, even as a schoolboy, of concentrating on those academic subjects which would further this ambition.

After he left Wyldcliffe College, Stroud, he attended Glasgow University, cramming a four-year mechanical engineering degree course into three years but still gaining a first. He was immediately commissioned into the Royal Navy as an Air Engineer Officer. He attended the RAF Air Engineering Officers' course at Henlow before being posted to HMS *Heron* at Yeovilton, and subsequently to HMS *Hunter* in the Indian Ocean. After service in India and Ceylon he was demobilised in 1946 and resumed his engineering training before becoming chief engineer of Red & White Services, a large bus company operating in South Wales and the West of England owned by his family and some friends.

In 1951, after the nationalisation of UK bus companies, Watts was appointed chief engineer of the group's bus companies (then renamed United Transport) in East, Central and South Africa which rapidly expanded. He designed new depots in the principal towns and cities, buses that tolerated the harsh "washboard" condition of Africa roads (some of his designs lasted 25 years), and the Mombasa ferries. Additionally, he instituted long-distance bus routes which opened up employment opportunities for

many East Africans who had previously been isolated, including the first Nairobi-Harare (Salisbury) service, a distance of 1,800 miles. Within four years he was made chief executive in East Africa, based in Nairobi.

On his return to the UK in 1961 he joined the boards of several industrial companies engaged in aluminium fabrication, wire brush manufacture, rubber moulding and motor distribution, as well as those in all fields of transport. In 1978 he became managing director of United Transport Company, and in 1980 chairman. Numerous directorships followed in sectors as diverse as publishing and aircraft simulation. He was masterly as a company "doctor" and he had a remarkable gift for spotting a company's strengths and weaknesses from a balance-sheet. Under his chairmanship the family business became the largest manufacturer of industrial tyres in the United Kingdom.

His main hobby was aviation: he held a private pilot's licence for more than 50 years and for some years he also held a commercial licence so that he could ferry executive staff in his own aircraft, a Cessna 182, to board meetings around Africa. He enjoyed sailing and in recent years competed several times at Cowes Week with his second wife, Mary. He was a keen skier and at the age of 72, after four months' intensive chemotherapy for leukaemia, descended on the old Olympic piste's downhill run at Val d'Isère.

He was always interested in education and served as a governor of two public schools for many years, taking an active part in policy making to within weeks of his death.

His first wife, Phyllis Harris, died following a shooting accident. His second wife was the biographer Mary S. Lovell. He is survived by her and by four children from his first marriage.

LOUIS KRASNER

Louis Krasner, violinist, died in Boston, Massachusetts, on May 4 aged 91. He was born in Cherkessky, Ukraine, on June 21, 1903.

WHEN Alban Berg was commissioned to write his Violin Concerto in 1934, the aim was to bring serialism and the whole 12-tone ethos espoused by Berg, Webern and their teacher Schoenberg to a wider audience. Whether or not the work was particularly successful in achieving this remains a matter of some debate.

The commissioner, Louis Krasner, went as far as moving to Europe from America in order to advise Berg on violin technique during the work's gestation, once saying of his move in commissioning it: "I tried to tell him [Berg] that 12-tone music was not making headway, but if he could undertake to solve the problem of writing a piece for violin, of making good music to listen to in his own way, that it would mean much to everyone."

In the end, it took the sudden death of Alma Mahler's beautiful daughter Manon Gropius at the age of 19 to stir Berg into honouring the commission which he ultimately dedicated "To the memory of an angel".



Louis Krasner, right, with Dimitri Mitropoulos

Critics of the Violin Concerto, premiered by Krasner at the ISCM Festival in Barcelona in April 1936 four months after the composer's death, argue that in his persistence Krasner distracted Berg from

ever completing his masterpiece, the opera *Lulu*. Nevertheless, the Violin Concerto quickly received performances by Krasner in Vienna conducted by Otto Klemperer, in London under

Sir Henry Wood and New York with Serge Koussevitzky. The same year Krasner recorded the work with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Anton Webern, a recording which has recently been reissued on compact disc.

Throughout the next ten years or so Krasner remained an important figure to the Second Viennese School, most notably in premiering Schoenberg's Violin Concerto—originally written for Rudolf Kolisch in 1936 but until December 1940 unperformed—with the Philadelphia Orchestra under Leopold Stokowski. For this he received a rare letter of appreciation from the composer. He recorded it 14 years later with the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra under Dimitri Mitropoulos (also recently reissued on compact disc).

Among other composers whose works he introduced at this time were Erich Wolfgang Korngold, Ernst Krenek, Alfredo Casella, Roger Sessions, Henry Cowell and Roy Harris.

Thereafter Krasner faded from the international scene, forsaking his solo career in 1944 to become leader of the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra. Later he moved to Syracuse University to coach violin and chamber music.

At the age of five Krasner was taken by his parents from their Ukrainian home to settle in Providence, Rhode Island, where four years later he began playing the violin. An anonymous listener who heard him performing at a social club paid for him to study with Eugene Gruenberg at the New England Conservatory in Boston, from where he graduated in 1922. He remained both there and as a regular coach at Tanglewood until the time of his death.

After graduation Krasner came to Europe, subsequently studying with, among others, Carl Flesch in Berlin. However, it was while visiting Vienna in 1929 that he first encountered the 12-tone technique and became a fervent believer that, if properly presented, such a system of music could attract a wider audience. He heard the American premiere of Berg's opera *Wozzeck* in 1931 but it was performances of the composer's Piano Sonata and *Lyric Suite* for string quartet that truly fired the interest in Berg and his music.

Despite his early withdrawal from the public life Krasner continued to be a revered figure in the American 12-tone school of thought. He is survived by his wife Adrienne and their two daughters.

REGINALD DIX

Reginald Dix, construction and engineering consultant and wartime RAF pilot, died on May 14 aged 73. He was born in Stoke Newington, London, on August 26, 1921.

REG DIX was widely known and respected in construction and material production plant consultancy.

While tending to devote himself largely to long-term single-client work, he was considered to be a prime mover and innovator in the application of management and technical sales systems in previously undeveloped production sectors.

As the son of an engineer's toolmaker he was introduced at an early age to novel machine applications and adaptations, and this background shaped his career in the postwar world.

Having enlisted in July 1940, Dix was commissioned in the RAFVR in May 1942 and received rapid promotion to flying officer as a fighter pilot. After periods with 141 and 299 Squadrons, he joined 169 Squadron in October 1943; after varied locations the squadron went to India as the war was ending.

Dix flew Mosquitos Mark II and III, and became com-



manding officer of the squadron's 173 Group, finishing his service as a wing commander.

From his industrial management standpoint, Reg Dix placed great emphasis on the methodology by which the building industry was to be modernised, starting from the co-ordination of product dimensions but extending to a wide base of construction technique assessment.

He and a set of like-minded

professionals were considerably assisted in the search for standardisation principles by their establishment of the Modular Society, of which Dix was a council member and executive committee chairman. The society forged an invaluable link between technological professionals and the British Standards Institution, and this link was cemented when the society eventually gave way to the Building Standards Group of the British Standards Society in the late 1970s.

His innate organising capacity on behalf of the Modular Society was influential over several years in the achievement of respect and standing for the educational and standards support functions of the BSC.

Indeed, Reg Dix had a highly developed perception of the value of industrial standards as useful tools for rationalisation in production and marketing; in recent years, for example, he applied this conviction to the development of mineral-bonded wood products in several European countries including Britain, and he founded an international federation to represent that sector.

In September 1952 Reg Dix married Evelyn Martha Ormston, who survives him.

Church news

Appointments
The Rev Maurice Allchin, Assistant Curate, St Mary's, Stratford (Chichester); to be Team Vicar, Bridport Team Ministry (Salisbury).
The Rev David Belcher, Vicar, West Bromwich Good Shepherd & St John (Lichfield); to be Priest-in-charge, Bratton, Eddington, Erlestoke and Coulston (Salisbury).
The Rev Malcolm Bridger, Rector, Tidworth, Ludgershall, and Farnborough; to be also Rural Dean of Avon (Salisbury).
The Rev Dr Neil Burgess, lecturer in Pastoral Studies, Lincoln Theological College; to be Diocesan Director of Training (Southwell).
The Rev Cameron Butland, Vicar, Bodicote; to be Team Rector, Wilney Team Ministry (Oxford).
The Rev Linda Church, Assistant Curate (NSM), Kirkby-in-Ashfield; to be Assistant Curate (NSM), Sleaford (Southwell).

The Rev Harry Edent, Chaplain and Head of Religious Studies, Brenwood School, and NSM, St Thomas', Brenwood (Chelmsford); to be Team Vicar (NSM), Beconsfield Team Ministry, responsibility for St Michael's (Oxford).
The Rev Anthony Evans, Rector, Ordsall, All Hallows and Retford St Alban; to be Priest-in-charge, Sutton-in-Ashfield St Mary Magdalene (Southwell).
The Rev Rodney Garner, Priest-in-charge, St Paul, Southport, and Lay Training Officer for the East Riding archdeaconry; to be Priest-in-charge, Holy Trinity, Southport, and Diocesan Theological Consultant (Liverpool).
The Rev Chris Garrud, Assistant Curate, St Paul's, Ireland Wood; to be Rector, Farnley, St Michael and St James (Ripon).

The Rev David Gavin, Curate, St Peter, Parr; to be Team Vicar, St Cleopas, Tonnet (Liverpool).
The Rev Roger Harrington, Bishop of Ripon's Drama Adviser; Vicar, The Epiphany, Gipton (Ripon).
The Rev Alan Holmes, NSM, Shiffield St Mary; to be Assistant Curate, Bech Hill, Grazierley and Spencers Wood (Oxford).
The Rev Colin Horsman, Vicar, Christ Church, Healey (Sheffield); to be Priest-in-charge, Duddington, and Diocesan Evangelism Adviser (Oxford).
The Rev Paul Hunt, Assistant Priest, Leeds City Team, and in charge of St Mary's; to be Vicar, Richmond Hill, Leeds (Ripon).
The Rev Diana Jones, Assistant Curate, Harburn St George and All Saints; to be Assistant Curate, Tidworth, Ludgershall and Farnborough (Salisbury).

The Rev Elizabeth Jordan, Parish Deacon, St Bartholomew, Ewood, and Assistant Director of Ordinands (Blackburn); to be Resident Minister, Walsall Wood, Sheffield, and Area Local Ministry Adviser in the Lichfield archdeaconry (Lichfield).
The Rev Jean Kings, Assistant Chaplain, University of the West of England, and Hon Curate, St Mary & St Francis, Ludlow; to be Assistant Curate, All Saints, Fishponds (Bristol).
The Rev David Lashbrook, Assistant Curate, Sherborne & Castleton and Lillingdon; to be Priest-in-charge, Weymouth St Paul (Salisbury).
The Rev Richard Newton, Priest-in-charge, St Andrew's, Malvern (Worcester); Team Rector, Kingswood Team Ministry (Bristol).
The Rev Neil Pollock, Team Rector, Ridgeway Team Ministry; to be Priest-in-charge, Chickwell & Fleet (Salisbury).

The heroes and the ideals

If one wanted to look at the blunders of the referendum debate, it would not be difficult to find abominable. Both sides have used arguments which can hardly be excused even by the excitement of the moment. But both sides have also developed arguments of a serious historic character and it is no doubt those historic arguments which will stay in the mind when the details of the debate have been forgotten.

There is no doubt who have been the heroes of the debate. On the "No" side Mr Enoch Powell has argued in a most skilful and sympathetic way, putting his arguments, particularly on television, with a combined clarity and courtesy which reminded one of the traditional standards of English politics. Yet on that side it has been Mr Tony Benn who has been the leader of the debate, even if like a batsman with a weakness on the offside Mr Benn is liable to be caught off his statistics. Whatever the result of the referendum, his is a significant political achievement.

ON THIS DAY

June 5, 1975

Extracts from a three-column leading article summarising the debate on the referendum on whether Britain should join the European Community. Two days later, the result showed the country 2-1 in favour.

He was the author of the referendum itself and for much of the time he has managed to make his arguments the central arguments in the debate. On the "Yes" side there have also been two leading figures, Mr Roy Jenkins is the most eloquent of our politicians. He writes and speaks better English even than Mr Enoch Powell. Mr Powell's arguments are constructed as a series of defined logical propositions, while Mr Jenkins' arguments

are shaped in English prose of which it is the vital quality that it should be fluent. Yet the other hero of the debate was not Mr Jenkins any more than it was Mr Powell. The Achilles of the European cause was Mr Heath. He throughout used the simple, central arguments which go to the heart of political discussion. He spoke with a freedom which he did not show when he had the responsibilities of a Prime Minister or a Party Leader, as a man can speak who has nothing on his mind except to express his own convictions about important matters...

We accept the ideal of Europe because it involves an outpouring of will towards nations who belong to the same European family as the four nations of the United Kingdom. It is through Europe that Britain will gain most and serve best: in 1975 Britain is as much in need of an opportunity for service, for purpose, as for any opportunity of gain. If there has been a disappointment in the debate, it is that it has concentrated too much on what Europe can do for us, and too little on what we can do for Europe.

JAY 100 1350

NEWS

Bosnian Serbs 'in the firing line'

■ Britain brushed aside a threat by the Bosnian Serb commander to continue holding the remaining 260 United Nations hostages until Nato called off airstrikes, and warned the Bosnian Serbs they had "put themselves in the firing line".

Despite the release of 121 hostages on Saturday, and hints from Serbia that the rest would be allowed to go, General Ratko Mladic told the UN no further releases would happen unless he received assurances that Nato would refrain from using its air power. Page 1

Major urged to oppose single currency

■ The Prime Minister was urged by close advisers to speak out against a single European currency. Jacques Santer, President of the European Commission, demanded an end to the national veto on foreign and security policy. Page 1

MP pressed

Sir Nicholas Scott, the Tory MP arrested last week after allegedly leaving the scene of a road accident, came under pressure from local Tories to resign at the next election. Page 1

Legal guidance

Judges are to be taught how to avoid comments and off-the-cuff remarks that may offend homosexuals as part of a training programme in "human awareness". Page 1

Rescue hopes

John Major's Downing Street policy unit is leading attempts in Whitehall to draw up a rescue package for more than a million homebuyers caught in the mortgage trap. Page 2

Hospital failure

A Commons committee is to cross-examine ministers and officials on the financial collapse of a private hospital. Page 2

Crop of trouble

A champion flower grower who was once gamekeeper to the Queen's equerry was found with a crop of cannabis among his prize-winning violets. Page 3

Transport costs

Parents will have to pay up to £1,000 a year for their children to travel to school if Essex County Council's plans to charge new grammar school entrants proceed next year. Page 5

Scholar accuses Jung of fraud

■ Carl Jung falsified evidence to promote his theories on psychoanalysis, according to a Harvard University scholar who claims the Jung family has blocked access to archives that would prove the Swiss psychologist was a fraud. Richard Noll, 35, a prize-winning academic, alleges that Jung was "the most influential liar of the 20th century". Page 11

Country dangers

Drug-taking is on the increase in rural areas and some teenagers seeking excitement are resorting to veterinary medicines, a report suggests. Page 7

Tories unseated

Tory party chiefs are braced for a summer of infighting as MPs compete for new constituencies laid down by the Boundary Commission. Page 8

Musical discord

Musicians at La Scala threatened further disruption after Riccardo Muti, the director, coolly foiled an orchestra strike at the Milan opera house by accompanying singers alone in a production of *La Traviata*. Page 10

Genetics outcry

British geneticists have denounced as "an undisguised embodiment of eugenic principles" a new Chinese law aimed at controlling the number of disabled children born. Page 11

Joy in the valleys

Throughout Wales came the long-distance telephone calls for which 11 families had prayed. Their sons and loved ones were alive — freed after a week held hostage by Bosnian Serbs. Page 12

Force at hand

The Rapid Reaction Force is to have a proactive role that could lead to more hostilities against the Bosnian Serbs. Page 13



Young dancers reaching for the stars at an audition for the Kirov Ballet's production of *The Sleeping Beauty* at Covent Garden

BUSINESS

Asia millions: Archie Norman, chief executive, is sitting on potential profits of £2.3 million from share options. Page 44

Union campaign: The GMB called for changes in the law governing proxy shareholder voting as it announced a list of companies against which it is to take legal action over political donations. Page 44

Fears discounted: A minimum wage of £4.10 an hour will not lead to job cuts, say managers consulted by *Personnel Today*. Page 44

Lloyd's action: An antiquarian book dealer is suing a firm of accountants for breach of contract in an attempt to gain compensation for more than £300,000 of losses in the insurance market. Page 41

Memory man: After a brain operation to end his epileptic fits, H.M. could tackle IQ tests and hold a conversation but he could not rediscover how to ride a bicycle. Dr Adam Zeman on the mystery of remembering. Page 16

Woman at the Bar: The first female head of the Criminal Bar Association tells Anne McElvoy how she managed to conquer a male bastion. Page 17

Exam survival: Don't cram, do sleep, don't panic, eat well, learn from past mistakes and don't mull over the material afterwards with your friends. Ben Preston offers tips on taking tests and retaining your sanity. Page 37

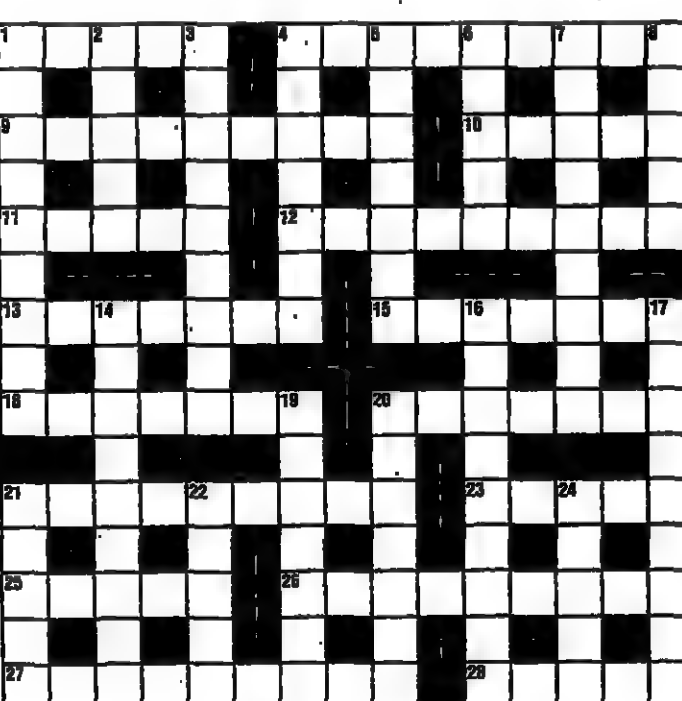


IN THE TIMES

■ **DOUBLE ACT**
Part one of a series by John Charmley on the Anglo-American special relationship

■ **KNOCKOUT TIME**
Rob Andrew writes as the serious business begins in the World Cup in South Africa

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,873



ACROSS

- 1 Money may be obtained from many a debtor (5).
- 4 Sort of plants made up in bales perhaps (9).
- 9 Scorning to produce notes without illumination (9).
- 10 Young swimmer constantly seen around small lake (5).
- 11 Gained nothing by a musical performance (5).
- 12 Being very nice over the MC's error (9).
- 13 Writer taking issue after a military body's retreat (7).
- 15 They are no singers of low songs! (7).
- 18 One involved in deals will get streams of abuse (7).
- 20 Turned colour and left the river (7).
- 21 Drink with stout defender (9).

DOWN

- 23 He really doesn't like causing heart-break (5).
- 25 The home of a man of science (5).
- 26 A lack of good grounding was responsible for this slip (9).
- 27 Deputy-head is to tax pay (9).
- 28 Blue or quite proper? (5).
- 1 Underworld boss put on edge over a good man's lying (9).
- 2 Don't claim a view isn't right (5).
- 3 Practised play (9).
- 4 A quarter continue to list this cheese (7).
- 5 Flower as a result of insecticide use? (7).
- 6 The old doctor's a sucker! (5).
- 7 Popular instrument — a single note shows nothing can touch it (9).
- 8 A resort of high-fliers (5).
- 14 Greek dramatist prepared for rough ride is up without direction (9).
- 16 She'll pay for catty utterance about Charles English! (9).
- 17 Finding rent etc is possibly making one cross (9).
- 19 An immigrant arranging 27? (7).
- 20 Get mad with some trader, angered beyond tolerance (7).
- 21 Repaired for only five hundred! (5).
- 22 Black magic (5).
- 24 Object when spare key is demanded (5).

KNOCKOUT

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,872 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockout, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch Whisky and a fine leather credit card wallet.

Times Two Crossword, page 44

TIMES WEATHER

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Region	Forecast
Greater London	7-10
East of England	7-10
South East	7-10
South West	7-10
West of England	7-10
North East	7-10
North West	7-10
Yorkshire	7-10
East Midlands	7-10
West Midlands	7-10
East of Scotland	7-10
West of Scotland	7-10
North of Scotland	7-10
South of Scotland	7-10
Wales	7-10
North Wales	7-10
South Wales	7-10
North of Ireland	7-10
South of Ireland	7-10
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Shetland	7-10
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AA ROADWATCH

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Saturday: Highest day temp: Margate, Kent, 18C (64F); lowest day temp: Inverberrie, Glasgow, 10C (50F); highest night temp: Margate, Kent, 10C (50F); lowest night temp: Inverberrie, Glasgow, 4.5C (40F).

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South of Scotland	7-10
Wales	7-10
North Wales	7-10
South Wales	7-10
North of Ireland	7-10
South of Ireland	7-10
Channel Islands	7-10
Isle of Man	7-10
Shetland	7-10
Orkney	7-10
Shetland	7-10
Orkney	7-10

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Area	Forecast
London & SE	7-10
East of England	7-10
South East	7-10
South West	7-10
West of England	7-10
North East	7-10
North West	7-10
Yorkshire	7-10
East Midlands	7-10
West Midlands	7-10
East of Scotland	7-10
West of Scotland	7-10
North of Scotland	7-10
South of Scotland	7-10
Wales	7-10
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North of Ireland	7-10
South of Ireland	7-10
Channel Islands	7-10
Isle of Man	7-10
Shetland	7-10
Orkney	7-10
Shetland	7-10
Orkney	7-10

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Saturday: Highest day temp: Margate, Kent, 18C (64F); lowest day temp: Inverberrie, Glasgow, 10C (50F); highest night temp: Margate, Kent, 10C (50F); lowest night temp: Inverberrie, Glasgow, 4.5C (40F).

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South West	7-10
West of England	7-10
North East	7-10
North West	7-10
Yorkshire	7-10
East Midlands	7-10
West Midlands	7-10
East of Scotland	7-10
West of Scotland	7-10
North of Scotland	7-10
South of Scotland	7-10
Wales	7-10
North Wales	7-10
South Wales	7-10
North of Ireland	7-10
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Channel Islands	7-10
Isle of Man	7-10
Shetland	7-10
Orkney	7-10
Shetland	7-10
Orkney	7-10

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East Midlands	7-10
West Midlands	7-10
East of Scotland	7-10
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North of Scotland	7-10
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Wales	7-10
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North of Ireland	7-10
South of Ireland	7-10
Channel Islands	7-10
Isle of Man	7-10
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Orkney	7-10
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Britain rides away with Nations' Cup

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England play an opening gambit with Smith

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Young blood chasing Christie's shadow

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Striking at the heart of fair play

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY JUNE 5 1995



Nick Popplewell, the Ireland prop, dives through the Welsh cover to score his side's first try in their rousing 24-23 victory in Johannesburg yesterday. Photograph: John Stillwell. Report, page 26

Improved display earns quarter-final against Australia

Champions await England

England... 44
Western Samoa... 22

FROM DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT
IN DURBAN

ENGLAND, with their most convincing performance of rugby union's World Cup so far, ensured a quarter-final meeting with Australia in Cape Town next Sunday at King's Park here last night. The clash of the two unbeaten countries in pool B, however, left a trail of injuries to both sides and Western Samoa will be desperately short of forwards when they take on South Africa on Saturday.

Yet England will be delighted that at last they have scored a handful of tries. Mike Catt's confidence at stand-off half was infectious and Dewi Morris, a bundle of energy at scrum half, may have played his way into the side which will recreate the 1991 final — which Australia won.

Though he left the field late in the game after a crunching tackle, Dean Richards lasted most of the match without too much sign of his hamstring injury and England's fitness brought them finally to a 22-point victory.

England's bid to become the only home union to top their pool did not exercise an undue fascination on the citizens of Durban who, despite the city's tag as the last outpost of empire, have been less than pleased at the crowd arrangements in place for the earlier pool games here. A stadium capable of holding 50,000 was approaching half full when

England kicked off on a mercifully dry evening.

Enough of them were English to raise a chant of "Deano" to greet Richards for his first game of the tournament they received due reward when, within 90 seconds, England had scored.

Ojomoh scored at the back of a lineout, leaving the blind side clear for Ugoagwu to burst towards the line, find Morris in support and, when the scrum half was stopped, back-squashed his way over near the corner.

It was just the start a reshaped XV required, while Catt at stand-off half welcomed an early touch of the

ball with two raking clearances. Even an offside by Hunter did not spell danger since Umaga lacked the injured Kelle's strength and accuracy as a goalkicker. Nonetheless a relieving pen-

All Blacks smash records 26
Irish reach last eight 26
Scots condemned 27
Clement Freud 27

alty after a series of Samoan lineout successes was welcome, and paved the way for a breakaway stopped only with difficulty five metres from the Samoan line. Dawe conceded

a good position by being penalised at the scrum but even so the points came when Leapepe's short-arm tackle was punished from 38 metres by Callard.

Again the Samoan line came under threat from a finely-judged garryowen by Catt but poor English discipline, including stamping at a ruck, wasted the chance. Yet England found space in a way they had not in their first two pool games, backs and forwards combining in the style which has been their ambition over the last year.

The back row, driven on by Richards, whose suspect hamstring was heavily bandaged,

linked to good effect and gave Catt room to drop a low close-range goal. At the same time, however, England lost Rowntree, one of the four Leicester forwards in the pack; the prop limped off and Mallett trotted eagerly on to win his first cap.

It was the prelude to a chapter of injuries: Leapepe, left the Samoan back row, to be replaced by Tatupu, who promptly surged down the right-hand touchline. Then Back, clutching his thigh, gave way to Rodber as England tried to reclaim their territorial ascendancy and their equilibrium at the lineout where the Samoans were unexpectedly effective.

The advent of Rodber had beneficial effects. First at the lineout, then at a midfield ruck where his Northampton colleague, Hunter, deserting the right flank, sent Underwood over for his 44th England try. Callard's second penalty gave England a comforting half-time margin of 21 points.

The celebratory conga of several England supporters was cut short by Fa'amasino's 40-metre penalty which began the second half, but the zest of the Islanders, hit by injury even before the match, seemed to have been left behind in East London.

If the English line escaped then, it fell seconds later. So quick in thought, the Samoans took a free kick and Sini, the replacement stand-off, scythed through to the posts to give Fa'amasino an easy conversion. The score roused thoughts of the second-half rallies in which the Samoans specialise, thoughts confirmed

after Callard stroked over a long penalty.

The circumstances were the same, a free kick ten metres from England's line, and so was the scorer. The Samoans forwards were held short but the stocky Sini stretched his 5ft 8in frame over the line, the conversion closing the gap to seven points. England looked flat-footed by comparison and even Catt, cool throughout, missed touch twice.

He compensated by prompting the move which led to an increasingly-common award in this tournament, a penalty try. Doubling behind a ruck set up by Rodber, he sent Ugoagwu surging forward. Morris and the England forwards drove in behind and, when the Samoans collapsed under the maul two metres short, Patrick Robin had no hesitation in awarding the try.

SCORERS: England: Try: Back, R Underwood (2), penalty try: Conversions: Callard (3). Penalty goals: Callard (5). Dropped goal: Catt. Western Samoa: Try: Sini (2). Ugoagwu, Conversions: Fa'amasino (2). Penalty goals: Fa'amasino (2).

ENGLAND: J E B Callard (Bath), I Hunter (Northampton), W O C Dargie (Hartlepool), B Line (Mersey), T Umaga (Wellington), P R de Garmy (Bath), R Underwood (Leicester), M J Catt (Leicester), C D Morris (Oxford), G C Rowntree (Leicester), R G R Dowe (Bath), V E Ugoagwu (Bath), S O Ojomoh (Bath), M O Johnson (Leicester), R West (Gloucester), N A Back (Leicester), D Richards (Leicester). Rowntree replaced by J A Mallett (Bath, 26m); Back replaced by T A K Rodber (Northampton, 34), Catt replaced by D P Hopley, Wigan, 71; Rodber replaced by S C Moore, Harlequins, 73; Richards replaced by K P P Stanbury (Bristol, 74).

WESTERN SAMOA: M Umaga (Wellington), B Line (Mersey), T Umaga (Wellington), P R de Garmy (Bath), R Underwood (Leicester), M J Catt (Leicester), C D Morris (Oxford), G C Rowntree (Leicester), R G R Dowe (Bath), V E Ugoagwu (Bath), S O Ojomoh (Bath), M O Johnson (Leicester), R West (Gloucester), N A Back (Leicester), D Richards (Leicester). Rowntree replaced by J A Mallett (Bath, 26m); Back replaced by T A K Rodber (Northampton, 34), Catt replaced by D P Hopley, Wigan, 71; Rodber replaced by S C Moore, Harlequins, 73; Richards replaced by K P P Stanbury (Bristol, 74).

Referee: P Robin (France)

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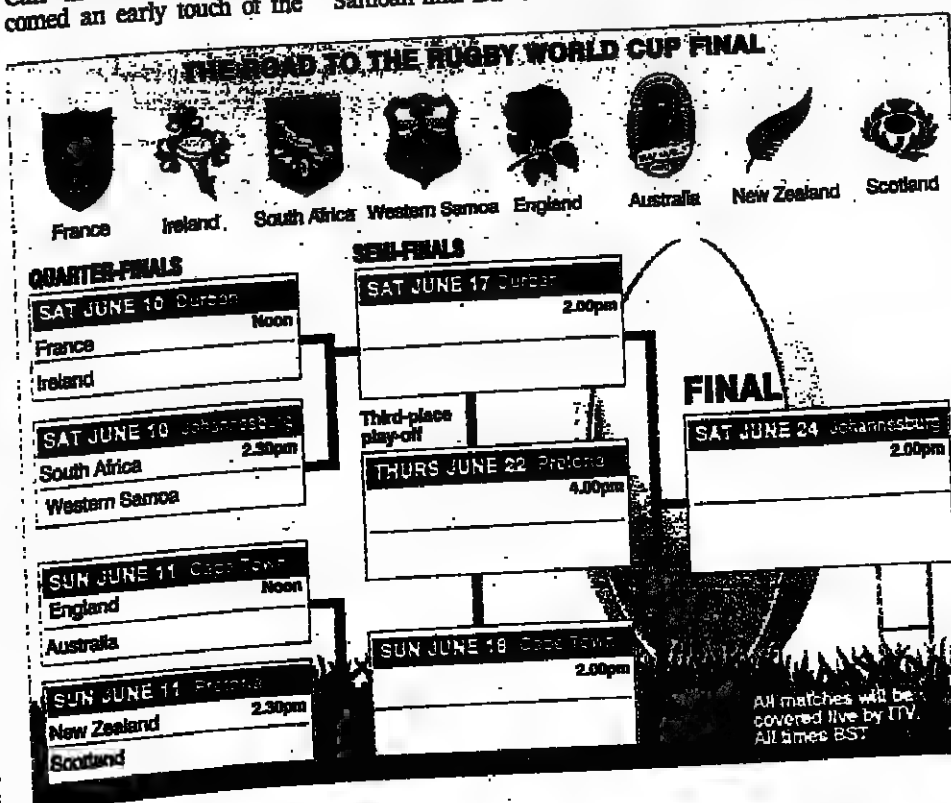
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BBC out to grass again in tennis overdose

In just three weeks, the first ball will be hit on the Centre Court at Wimbledon, and the whole country will again be caught up in a fortnight of glorious self-delusion about Britain's status as a serious tennis nation. It is, as they say, fun while it lasts.

However, while there is little sign of improvement in our ability to play the game, there seems to be an unexpectedly growing faith in our ability to watch it. Spurred perhaps by an Australian Open that finally served up a winning mixture of drama and emotion, the television companies are packing their summer schedules with tennis. And that's before Wimbledon even begins.

The executive producer, John Rowlinson, returns from holiday today to put the finishing touches to the BBC's plans for its Wimbledon coverage.

Already, though, most of his team are warming up at the French Open at Roland Garros — John Barrett, Mark Cox, David Mercer, Virginia Wade and the never-to-be-forgotten 1976 women's champion there, Sue Barker. The coverage from Paris is a big step up from last year, opening up four days earlier in Grandstand on Saturday and, until the first cricket Test intervenes, dominating the afternoon schedules on BBC2.

It is a big investment and a big gamble, especially given the enduring ability of French clay to produce games and champions somewhat lacking in spark — Barker apart, of course. But if Andre Agassi can swashbuckle his way to the final stages, and Steffi Graf and Gabriela Sabatini continue to combine brawn and beauty for a round or two more, it should pay off. Win or



MATTHEW BOND
TV ACTION REPLAY

lose, the women's final and men's final fall neatly for Saturday and Sunday Grandstand next weekend.

The BBC's mob-handed arrival at Roland Garros must be frustrating for Eurosport, which had the first week to itself. Both channels are using the same pictures, supplied by the joint host broadcasters, Antenne 2 and France 3. These have generally been of a high quality and include a replay device that I have not seen before — a magnifying glass effect that reveals the changes in a player's grip

during shot. The sound, too, has been frighteningly precise, picking up every creak, grunt and Anglo-Saxon curse.

In common with so many tennis broadcasters, however, the French do not have cameras positioned for disputed line calls. In these days of advanced camera technology, having commentators reduced to shouting the familiar "can't really tell from that angle" just is not good enough. As for upsetting officials, television replays have been successfully incorporated in top-class cricket, so why not tennis?

Unfortunately, Eurosport has not been able to recreate the commentary team that stole such a march on the competition during the Australian Open. Brew McMillan's commitment to Sky Sports and its coverage of Beckenham later this week means he is unavailable for the vital role of expert summariser in Paris. As a result, Simon Reed and David Mercer have been doing long solo stints behind the microphone, with only Clare Wood for occasional company in the commentary box.

Reed has a relaxed, easy style that sounds like it could go on forever — which is probably just as well when he is commenting for up to 24 hours at a stretch. The knowledgeable Mercer, who can spot a player's girlfriend or coach at 50 paces, has a slightly more impatient tone

and a frankness that can be dangerous and — endearing. "Not really a game to stir the emotions," may be an accurate description of many of the early encounters in Paris last week, but it is wise. Mercer, for those of you confused, will spend this week flitting between the Eurosport and BBC commentary boxes.

Whoever picks up the silverware in Paris next weekend, the television companies will barely pause for breath. The BBC goes on to Queen's Club and then Eastbourne, while Gerald Williams and the team at Sky have Beckenham, parts of Queen's, and Nottingham. As for Eurosport, its grass-court coverage continues in Europe with tournaments at Rosmalen, in Holland, and Halle, in Germany. And after all that, it's game, set and Wimbledon to the BBC. Quiet, please.

Montgomery extends poor play-off run with defeat at second extra hole

Walton's wizardry earns second win in eight-week spell

By Mel West

When he was leading the Murphy's English Open by three strokes on Friday night, Colin Montgomerie said that, if he lost from that position, he would be bitterly disappointed. Yesterday he did and he was, going down to Philip Walton at the second hole of a sudden-death play-off after they had tied on 274, 14 under par.

A day on which the quality of the golf was dramatically reduced by a cruel wind that gusts its capricious way round the Arden course at the Forest of Arden, both Walton and Montgomerie made more mistakes in 18 holes than they would normally reckon to make in 72.

Happily for them both, only one man who was within striking distance of them as the day began was able to make much of a move. The honourable exception was Roger Chapman, one of the nearly-men of European golf, who finished third, three strokes behind, after a 69, two ahead of Peter Senior, Wayne Westner and Darren Clarke.

The £108,350 Walton won for his victory — his second in Europe in eight weeks after five years without a win — puts him into second place in the order of merit, while Montgomerie's second place returns him to No 1.

It also elevated Walton to seventh in the Ryder Cup points list. In spite of a performance which demanded nerve as well as technique, he remained guarded about the big march. "I don't want to talk about the Ryder Cup at the moment," he said. "I'll see how I feel about that in the morning."

Montgomerie was less inhibited about Walton's desirability as a Cup colleague.

"Philip battled hard today," he said. "He would be a valuable asset to have in any Ryder Cup team." This was Montgomerie's fourth play-off, and he maintained a 100 per cent record by losing it. To his credit, he maintained his sense of humour about it. "I love play-offs," he said. "No, wait, let me rephrase that. I hate play-offs."

"I can't explain it," he said. "It's just a coincidence that I haven't won one. I don't suffer too much from nerves, so it's not that." Since his other three

Walton had to show his stickability as Montgomerie larded the front nine with four birdies. If he had not lipped out with par putts at the 2nd and the 3th, he would have had the tournament won by the turn, which he reached in 34 to Walton's 35.

Walton birdied the 10th to put him level, Montgomerie went ahead again on the 14th when Walton missed a ten-foot downhill putt for par and they finished with 70 apiece after Montgomerie bogeyed the 15th and both men birdied the 17th, where Walton again proved his courage.

Montgomerie played a superb wedge to no more than a foot and Walton provided the perfect riposte with a wedge to 15 inches. Montgomerie holed the putt and led for precisely 12 seconds before Walton tapped his in.

Montgomerie hit a metal wood into the teeth of the gale on the first play-off hole, the 210-yard 18th, and ran through to the back of the green. Walton, all of 75 feet from the flag, putted up to eight feet and Montgomerie lipped out with his chip-and-run from 30 feet.

Victory and defeat came at the next, the par-five 17th, where Walton put his third shot gloriously to no more than two feet. A birdie was a formality. Montgomerie played in to 35 feet in three, had to putt over two ridges, and left the ball a foot to the left of the flag.

It was a good putt, no question about it, and nine times out of ten it would have taken the play-off back to the 18th. It was just Montgomerie's misfortune that on this day he met a man on a mission. Comfort zone? What comfort zone?

FINAL SCORES

274: P Walton 65, 70, 68, 70 (won at second extra hole). C Montgomerie 68, 69, 72, 70. 277: R Chapman 68, 70, 70, 69. W Westner 68, 72, 71, 68. D Clarke 72, 67, 69, 71. P Senior 69, 70, 69, 74. 280: T Price (Aus) 68, 71, 73, 68. B Lane 68, 69, 71, 72. H Clark 68, 74, 71, 69. 282: D Robertson 70, 72, 74, 69. J Townsend (US) 72, 69, 69, 72. D Cooper 70, 68, 73, 73. 288: A Lyle 70, 68, 73, 72. M McInnes 74, 68, 68, 72. J Pever 70, 70, 69, 71, 75. 284: J Gorman 69, 74, 68, 72. G Darcy 70, 68, 74, 71. D Evans 71, 68, 73, 71. M Charlton (Aus) 70, 71, 72, 71. G Turner (NZ) 74, 68, 71, 71. P McGilley 72, 68, 72, 72. M Gane 72, 70, 70, 72. P Baker 68, 68, 74, 73. 285: S Tomasco 70, 72, 75, 68. M Gormley (Swe) 68, 71, 77, 69. J McHenry 71, 71, 72, 74. R Lee 70, 72, 71, 72. M Campbell (NZ) 67, 71, 74, 73. A Forsberg (Swe) 68, 73, 69, 73. J Hoggan 68, 71, 72, 68, 73. C Rogers (W) 68, 71, 71, 74. J Gump (P) 68, 75, 67, 75. P Atkiss 71, 70, 68, 76.

defeats were at the hands of such luminaries as Ernie Els, Sandy Lyle and Severiano Ballesteros, he need have little cause for embarrassment.

Montgomerie, who was attempting to win the title for the second year running, was left downhearted at his defeat. "I don't feel I lost this today," he said. "Philip went out and won it. I feel good about my game. It's nice to be back on top of the order of merit, and I am looking forward to going to the US Open with my game in good order."

Glasgow harbour hopes of medal

By Our Sports Staff

GLASGOW Western, the Scottish champions, have a chance of a bronze medal at the European women's club hockey championship at Utrecht today. Glasgow play Slavia, from Lithuania, in the third-place play-off while Berliner HC of Germany, and the home side, Kampong, make their first appearances in the final.

The Dutch beat Glasgow 3-1 yesterday to leave the Scots second in their pool ahead of Stade Francais on goal difference. But Leicester, who needed to draw or beat Berliner to reach the play-off against Glasgow, lost 1-0. Today they

meet Swansea in a classification game.

Leicester had revived their challenge on Saturday when Sue Holwell, the former Great Britain international, scored in the last minute from a penalty corner against Randstad, from Ireland. Glasgow Western had Sue MacDonald to thank in a comfortable 4-0 victory over Swansea on Saturday after the Scottish international had scored a hat-trick. Sheena McKelvie scored the other goal.

England rounded off their build-up to the European Cup yesterday with a 5-1 victory over a depleted Scotland, for whom Alison Ramsay was

making a world record 250th international appearance, at Lilleshall. After Rhona Simpson put Scotland ahead from a penalty stroke, England levelled immediately from a similar award through Karen Brown. Lisa Bayliss converted a penalty corner before half-time and Mandy Nicholls, Jane Smith and Anna Bennett rounded off victory in the second half. Bennett's goal followed an excellent passing move involving Smith and Brown.

On Saturday, Nicholls scored the only goal four minutes from the end in the first match after England had missed a host of chances, including 10 penalty corners.

Jane Sixsmith set up the goal when she broke clear and as the ball rolled loose in the circle, Nicholls shot in.

Jane Swinerton-Ions, the England manager, was not impressed with the performance against a Scottish side missing seven regulars. "It definitely wasn't one of our best performances," Swinerton-Ions said. "They put a lot of players behind the ball and were hard to break down, but we needed more composure in attack and certainly should have won by more."

England defend their title at Amstelveen, Holland, later this month.

Results, page 32

Late goal plunges Havant into gloom

FROM SYDNEY FRISKIN
IN TERRASSA, SPAIN

HAVANT fought back from the depths of despair in the European men's club hockey championship yesterday, but a goal in the last minute by Jacques Brinkman deprived them of a precious point as the Dutch moved into the final with a 3-2 victory.

At half time Amsterdam were two goals in front. The Australian Graham Reid and Peters having scored to give them what seemed like a comfortable lead. But in the second half Havant put the Dutch defence under pressure

and two goals by Giles from a short corner and a penalty stroke levelled the score. But in the end Havant slumped to the foot of the table in Pool B having on Saturday lost 2-1 to the Italian club Cernusco.

Havant, with only one point to their credit should on yesterday's performance have been worth more. But they will now play off today against the Belgian club Baudouin to avoid relegation to the B division next year. There seemed little hope against Amsterdam yesterday for Havant who appeared to have been outwitted in international strength but they had their injury problems

with Lawson unable to play and even Giles did not come on to the field until after 25 minutes because of a groin strain.

Saturday's victory by Cernusco over Havant was fashioned by the Argentine international Fernando Ferrara who scored both goals from a penalty stroke and a short corner. The teams were level 1-1 by half time. Pattison having scored on the follow up from Havant's only short corner. The Italians had six of these awards, three in each half.

In today's final Amsterdam will meet Uhlenhorst from Germany who are seeking

their eighth successive triumph. Uhlenhorst were within three minutes of defeat yesterday against Aletic Terrassa, when Fischer levelled the score at 2-2 from a short corner to put the Germans on top of Pool A. Aletic will play off with Cernusco for the bronze medal.

If Havant lose to the Belgians today, Teddington, winners of the national title, will have to play in the B division of this tournament next year. Guildford, who beat Teddington 4-1 in the HA Cup final, will play in the Cup Winners' Cup.

Results, page 32

Experience eclipses young pretenders

By A Correspondent

EXPERIENCE won through at the Leeds Water Ski Classic at the weekend when Olga Gubarenko, of Russia, took the women's overall title and Steffen Wild, of Germany, came first in the men's event.

The performance of the young pretenders, however, against a leading European field also made its mark. Gubarenko narrowly won the women's title, but it required a display of consistency in all three events.

On the way to the podium, she took the slalom title, a discipline in which she was pushed throughout the competition by two 18-year-olds, Sarah Gatty Saunt, of Britain, and Angeliki Andriopoulou, of Greece.

Andriopoulou was an outstanding junior, winning the overall European title two years ago, and all three individual medals. Her second place overall in Leeds confirmed that she has continued to develop her skills in the senior division.

Gatty Saunt also set out her stall. Last season, a knee

injury put her out of competitions, but she has begun the 1995 season in determined mood. Her weakest discipline is the jump, and although she leapt 33.2 metres, just short of her personal best, this area needs further improvement if she is to better her third place overall.

"I have never made the final in this event before," Gatty Saunt said. "I won the slalom title at the Australian Masters earlier this year, and I hope I can now put my injury behind me."

The men's event was dominated by Wild, whose powerful build gives him an advantage over the younger competitors in both the slalom and jump. Nonetheless, Jason Seels, 18, showed flair and maturity to give him third place overall and make him a prospect for the future.

The trick performance of the young Frenchman, Nicholas Le Forestier, was the highlight of the competition. His ability to perform front flips and back flips in rapid succession with seeming ease puts him in a class of his own.

British water skiing enjoyed a golden era when Mike Hazelwood dominated the sport more than a decade ago. The Leeds Water Ski Classic has shown that Britain has the talent coming through the ranks to challenge the old guard.

Final flourish fails to save England A

A LATE fightback by England A failed to save them from their third successive defeat on their rugby union tour Australia yesterday. Trailing 28-11 to New South Wales County at Grahame Park, Gosford, with just three minutes remaining, the touring side scored two tries, one of the converted, but had left their rally far too late and were beaten 28-23.

Kevin Yates, the prop forward, scored a first-half try for England A and the touring captain, Paul Grayson, landed a penalty goal. In a grandstand finish, the flanker, D. Eves, and the wing, Steve Hackney, with a fine sole of scored tries, the second being converted by Grayson, said: "We failed to keep the pressure on in the middle of the game. But the County boys ran hard and straight didn't do anything fancy, all credit to them. They played in the conditions and deserved their win."

Rain delays Faldo

GOLF: Nick Faldo was among 22 players who failed to complete their third round as rain again played havoc on the Memorial Tournament in Dublin, Ohio. Greg Norman was leading the field after birdieing the 14th to move under par when play was halted for the day. The second round leaders were due to complete their rounds early morning, but the tournament organisers still hope they will finish on time.

□ Pam Wright, of Britain, scored a second successive under-par 69 for a total of 209, seven under par, at third round of the Oldsmobile Classic in Michigan. She is six shots behind Dale Eggett, of the United States.

Rematch for Foreman

BOXING: George Foreman has been ordered to defend his International Boxing Federation (IBF) world heavy title against Axel Schulz, of Germany, or forfeit it. The IBF directors raised Schulz from the No 9 to contender and ordered the bout be contested within days, but the deadline could be extended. The winner face Franz Botha, of South Africa. Foreman refused with Tony Tucker to face Schulz and was stripped World Boxing Association crown. He won a controversial majority decision over Schulz in Las Vegas on April 22.

Ryan topples Jahan

SQUASH: Derek Ryan, the Irish champion, ranked No 1 in the world, beat Zarak Jahan, of Pakistan, the world No 12, 13-15, 15-7, 6-15, 15-6 in 76 minutes in the first round of the Tournament of Champions in New York yesterday. The played in a Perspex court mounted in the main waiting room of Grand Central Station in front of curious weekend travellers. Peter Nichol, the No 3 seed, Simon Parke, Chris Walker, Mark Cairns and Danny Middings, all of Britain, won their first-round matches along with Jansher Khan, of Pakistan, the No 1 seed.

Betting ban remains

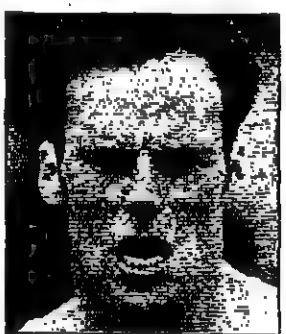
ATHLETICS: On-site betting has been ruled out by the British Athletic Federation (BAF). The BAF council, which met on Saturday, decided not to amend rule 19, which would have cleared the way for William Hill to set up mobile betting units at the main international meetings in Britain. Barry Snellgrove, the BAF commercial director, who was keen to see on-site betting introduced, said that the council's decision had been "pretty unanimous".

Vines challenges elite

YACHTING: Ben Vines, 21, the youngest national champion in history, joined Stuart Childerley and Glynis Charles among the eight competitors from the qualifying heat yesterday who will face some of the world's best match racers in the first round of the Vauxhall Royal Lympington Cup tomorrow. The top sailors with direct invitations include Peter Gilmore, ranked No 3 in the world, and Chris Law.

Staines sprints clear

ATHLETICS: Gary Staines, right, outspurred Justin Hobbs to win the Bupa Great Welsh Run in Cardiff yesterday. The duo fought an intense battle over a fast city-centre 10-kilometre course before Staines took command to win in 28min 34sec. Staines said he was not yet sure if he would replace Paul Evans at 10,000 metres in Britain's European Cup team.



Fiji joins Super League

RUGBY LEAGUE: Fiji followed Tonga and Western Samoa yesterday in joining the Super League next year. They join New Zealand and Great Britain under the league, backed by News Corporation, parent company of The Times, and will receive £638,000 to underwrite two-thirds of their budgets over the next five years. Fiji will also replace Sydney as hosts for the official world sevens, including all Australasian and European Super League clubs.

Under-15s target Lord's

CRICKET: England have been drawn in the same group as West Indies and India for the Lombard Under-15 World Cup in England next year. The semi-finals of the tournament, which is the first for this age group, will be played on Test grounds and the final will be held at Lord's on August 20. The draw is Group A: Canada, England, India, West Indies, Zimbabwe. Group B: Australia, Holland, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka.

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JAN 10 1995

Britain's anchorman rides two flawless rounds at Hickstead

Whitaker inspires Nations Cup win

By JENNY MACARTHUR

IT WAS not a vintage Nations Cup at Hickstead yesterday but there was nothing second-rate about Britain's victory. Helped by a superb double clear round from John Whitaker, riding Everest Welham, a horse competing in this event for the first time, the British team won by 20 points from the United States, who had started as favourites.

Despite the poor opposition, Ronnie Massarella, the British team manager, had plenty to smile about. All four horses in the team were competing in the Hickstead ENZA New Zealand Nations Cup for the first time and three of them — Welham, It's Otto, Geoff Billington's Zurich Grand Prix winner, and William Funnell's Comex proved more than equal to the challenge.

"You wouldn't be afraid to send any of them to the European championships," Massarella said. "I just wish I had known they were only third favourites today for I would have put some money on them."

Only Emma-Jane Mac's Diamond, the horse on which she won the Ladies National championship at Windsor last month, proved a disappointment.

Mac, who incurred 24 faults in the first round and retired in the second, was selected, reluctantly, after Michael Whitaker's Elton damaged a fetlock earlier in the week.

"She's a brave girl," Massarella said. "She came in under duress knowing her horse was too inexperienced but she did her best."

Jon Doney's 12-fence course was not as big as in previous years but, given the sticky conditions and the second string nature of the teams offered an appropriate challenge.

The most difficult line was from the notorious water fence to the fifth, the Derby Rails, which proved one of the most influential fences on the course. Diamond was one of several horses who became unsettled by the sharp pulling up required immediately after the fast gallop to the water.

At halfway Britain held a comfortable eight-point lead



William Funnell and Comex who rose to the challenge of helping the British team to victory yesterday. Photograph: Julian Herbert

ahead of Holland due to clear rounds from Funnell and Whitaker and just four faults from Billington. The latter, who, at 40, has competed in more than 20 Nations Cups but was making his debut in this contest, has almost certainly jumped his way into the team for the European championships in September after It's Otto's effortless display of jumping.

In the second round, over the same course, the British

lead was lengthened by two more well-ridden rounds from Funnell and Billington, who incurred four faults apiece. The United States rallied, with good performances from their first two riders, Peter and Mark Leone, but they had left it too late to pose any serious threat.

With Holland falling behind the United States in the second round and Germany and Ireland dropping out of contention, Britain looked in

an unassailable position. Whitaker, the last rider to go, could afford to hit four fences and still win the Prince of Wales Cup for his country. "Ronnie said if I fell off I was to get back on quick," he said afterwards. Whitaker, so often the anchorman of the team, never gave his team manager any cause for concern.

He started riding Welham, 13, last December at the invitation of the horse's owner, Keeley Durham, who wanted

him to compete at more international shows. Despite his age, Welham appears to improve with every performance. In the British Grand Prix on Friday he had incurred only four faults and was evidently having a good luck at Hickstead's imposing fences.

Whitaker, though, never had any doubts that he would acquit himself well. "I always knew he was a good horse," Whitaker said. Watched by a tearful Miss Durham,

Welham showed just how good he is by being the only one of the 24 horses in the contest to achieve a double clear.

Afterwards, Whitaker, whose children, Louise, 14, and Robert, 12, won eight junior classes between them during this meeting, confirmed that, if selected, he might ride Welham in the European championships.

Results, page 32

Gem of dispassion strikes the perfect balance

Sometimes you stumble over moments in sport that open an extraordinary vignette, not into the mind of the competitor but into the heart and soul of the sport itself. Recent examples include football's first division play-offs final, which finished 4-3, the Rugby World Cup match between Argentina and Western Samoa, and Michael Atherton's innings in the third one-day cricket international at Lord's.

We had such a vignette at Hickstead yesterday: 50 yards of rather splashy green turf that, if you happened to be a show jumper, spelt out the entire meaning of life.

This was the ground between fences four and five in the Nations Cup. Four was the water, five a steep post and

rails upright. It was a classic bit of course-building, and it did exactly what it was supposed to do: it tested the winners from the losers, and showed what show jumping is all about.

You must take the water long, fast, and flat; you must take the post and rails, short, compact, and bouncy. Think of athletics, and imagine a long jumper's run-up, and a high jumper's utterly different gate for utterly different purposes.

But the show jumping horse must do both. Picture Emma-Jane Mac on a wonderfully athletic beast called Diamond. Yes, but canalising all that lovely energy, that is the problem. Keep, too keen. They splashed in the water, and then clobbered the fence.



SIMON BARNES
At Hickstead

Control. That is what the sport's about. Another comparison for these decisive 50 yards: imagine driving your 4x4, and shifting straight from normal to low-range gears.

So in came the penultimate rider of the day, Albert Voorn, and Jules' Brown Boy, needing a clear if Holland were to have any chance. And he was controlled all right. Far too controlled. He jumped with pedantic precision, and paid the same penalty as the over-

zealous Diamond. Carefully, he dropped a foot into the wet, and carefully he clipped the upright beyond.

Between water and upright, the rider seeks not so much to correct speed as to change the entire shape of his horse. It's not a matter of slowing down. You must keep all that drive and energy you had for the water — and convert it into vertical impulsion.

Most riders hit the far side of the water and made swift, grabbing corrections. Obvi-

ously, unsuitable — and clearly leaving a fair bit to chance.

After the Dutchman had completed, John Whitaker rode for victory with four fences in hand. This is not a scenario to make British show jumping followers demoted with anxiety.

The Whitaker brothers are both unappreciated away from the game's impassioned followers. Charisma bypass is one of the kinder remarks heard. Well, John showed yet again yesterday that he has a nerve bypass. A burglar would envy him.

And Blondin would envy the balance. Blondin was the man who kept crossing the Niagara Falls by tightrope. Watching Whitaker and his horse, Everest Welham, take fences four and five was an

education. Apart from the fact that there was nothing you could learn from it.

Whitaker rode a double clear, and he took the trouble some 50 yards of turf with his usual insouciant, what's-all-the-excitement-about aplomb.

You can't say what he did that other riders didn't. You could only really say what he didn't do. He didn't hit the water, he didn't hit the fence, and he didn't make a fuss. Flamboyance is for fairgrounds. For showgrounds, you need a rider who can balance a horse on the cusp of control; topping neither into impulsive carelessness nor exaggerated carefulness.

No, Whitaker is not flashy and carefree. But then neither are the men who carve diamonds for a living.

Becker makes angry exit against Voinea

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN PARIS

AMID bitter recriminations on both sides of the net, Boris Becker was ignominiously knocked out of the French Open tennis championships yesterday. The German, seeded No 3 and three times a semi-finalist here, was beaten by a qualifier, Adrian Voinea, in an extended third-round match staged over 18 hours.

He was followed out by the women's third seed, Mary Pierce. The Australian Open champion and the runner-up here last year, she was beaten in straight sets by Iva Majoli, the twelfth seed, who has been burdened by being compared to her fellow countrywoman, Monica Seles.

After his belittlement, Becker directed his anger at the organisers, complaining of inflexible and insensitive officialdom. In turn, Voinea, a 20-year-old Romanian, Becker had never heard of before, accused him of belligerence and less than gentlemanly conduct.

The trouble started for Becker on Saturday evening, when a four-hour wait ended with the instruction to prepare for play because the weather was improving. "I looked out and asked whether they were talking about Paris or some place in Africa," he said.

Amid thin drizzle, dim light and further grumbles of discontent, he yielded two sets before play was suspended. "What is the difference between now and 45 minutes ago?" he asked the supervisor, Brian Early. "It is still raining and it is still dark."

He explained why the leading players are at a disadvantage in such conditions. Instead of "doing the things that make us better than the other guys", aiming for the lines and serving heavily, they play a percentage game which is "not special but average".

Both players stated that, before leaving the court, they were told that matches elsewhere had all been stopped. In fact, unfinished sets were still being completed. "They cheated my opponent because he would have won easier than today," Becker said. Voinea charged the official with "lying".

When they resumed yesterday, Becker was unable to recover and went down 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5. Only once before, in 1993, when he was eliminated from the Australian Open by Anders Jarryd, had he been removed from a grand slam event by a qualifier.

He had been idolised by Voinea, but no longer. Sensing that his opponent had attempted to intimidate him with steely glares and unintelligible comments, "it was sad for me to change my idea of him. This kind of behaviour is

not what we expect from him". Voinea endured an undistinguished junior career and his only previous grand slam victory was at the Australian Open in January. Yet he and the equally unknown Australian, Scott Draper, have reached the last 16.

So did another qualifier, Younes El Aynaoui, but the Moroccan was outplayed by Andre Agassi. The top seed, interrupted only by a sharp shower in mid-afternoon, went through 6-4, 6-2, 6-2.

Pierce, though not visibly inhibited, left the arena at the end of the first set so that her strained groin could be strapped. She invariably calls for treatment whenever she is trailing and Magdalena Maleeva recently said that the habit amounts to cheating.

Pierce encouraged herself with frequent cries of "aller", yet Majoli endeared herself more to the crowd when she invited a ballboy to rally with her during the three-minute injury break.

"I don't like making excuses



Voinea: discontented

when I lose," Pierce lamented, "but it was hurting me when I served and when I ran for a wide shot." In four previous meetings, she had never been defeated by the 17-year-old and had conceded only one set. The roles were reversed as she submitted 6-2, 6-3.

No-hoppers should have gone before the second week but Adriana Serra-Zanetti subsided to the fastest defeat so far. Against Conchita Martinez, the fourth seed and prospective champion, she lasted for a mere 40 minutes in an example of miserably non-competitive tennis.

Jana Novotna provides a contrast on her own. On Saturday she led 5-0 and 40-0 in the third set against Chanda Rubin but later made the stunningly banal claim that "she didn't let in control". Missing nine match points, she lost her nerve, as in the 1993 Wimbledon final, and the match.

Results, page 32

Roland Garros offers recipe for relaxation

David Powell takes a day-trip to Paris to savour the charm and singular atmosphere of the French Open tennis championships

the complete sporting, shopping, eating and participating experience. Want to measure the speed of your service? You can do so at Roland Garros. For a fast service to Paris I chose Eurostar: Waterloo to Gare du Nord in three hours. From there to Porte d'Auteuil, the nearest stop on the metro to Roland Garros, takes 30 to 45 minutes, depending on connections. The first train out of London will get you there within an hour of the start of play and, if you are prepared to miss the last hour, it is possible to do the trip in a day. You would have seven hours at the tennis. Tickets can be obtained from the French tennis federation, but the present tournament is sold out.

I was persuaded, especially as I would have the chance to mix with the players. I would be expected to sign first-week letters and bring them to Beckenham, which coincided with the second week of Paris. I had only a small budget but, with persistence, I succeeded in signing Andrea Jaeger in my first visit.

Thus the French championships became an annual treat for me but, until last Friday, I had not returned for 13 years. It was like going back to the house of one's childhood and being struck by the change. These days Roland Garros is

My ticket was for Court A where, for £255 (about £33), I could watch five matches, four singles and a doubles. Court A is the most recently built of the three main courts and, with Roland Garros shaped like an aircraft wing, it is positioned almost at the tip.

Ten national flags fly at one end, the Union Jack among them. It is reassuring to know that it remains in the top ten, even if it seems like a lifetime since a British player was. A walk to Court No 1, where the names of the singles winners down the years are inscribed on slabs of stone, is a reminder that British success was more recent. 1976: Adriano Panatta and Sue Barker.

Between Centre Court and

Court No 1 is "Smash Corner", where £10 buys all-comers three timed services. No need for accuracy, just serve into a net and watch the digital display for an instant reading. Compare your speed with the record for the day. I tried when 211 kilometres per hour stood as the mark to beat. Nobody mistook me for Jeremy Bates.

I turned to the giant screen outside Centre Court to watch, briefly, Andre Agassi, then picked up his match again on television in the shop beneath the scoreboard, daring not to move in case an assistant thought I might be interested in parting with £595 for a bathrobe. From the window display, the shop is as inviting as a short lull but the prices call for restraint.

Food is inexpensive and, for less than the price of a Roland Garros T-shirt (£130) lunch for two can be bought: a selection of four French cheeses, salad and wine. What you lose in the exchange rate (£7.6 to the pound), you gain on the raspberry. Raspberries and ice cream for much less than the price of Wimbledon's strawberry treat. The atmosphere at Roland Garros is *sympathique*. It feels roomier than Wimbledon. Court A was only half full, the onesidedness of the

matches inviting the temptation to seek excitement on the outside courts. Court A was the only one in which all matches were won in straight sets.

By lunchtime, Anke Huber and Thomas Muster had reached the last 16 of the singles. Gabriela Sabatini opened the afternoon programme. With her multi-coloured racket (blue, yellow and fluorescent orange), she dazzled and bludgeoned her way into a 6-3, 5-1 lead over Irina Spirlea. Tea was looming too soon after lunch.

Spirlea, though, delayed the *tarre aux pommes*, winning three games before Sabatini closed business. Jim Courier dispatched Christian Ruid with similar efficiency and, by now, I was in need of excitement. I found it on Court No 12.

I was under the impression that British interest had long gone but I had forgotten about the mixed doubles. On Court No 12 Clare Wood and Libor Pimek, her Belgian playing partner, were set-all against a Swedish pair. Wood, I had read recently, contemplated suicide not long ago but was saved from despair by a new man in her life.

Here she was smiling, even through a tense deciding set which she and Pimek won 9-7. Her troubles seemed far behind her now. But then it is hard to imagine anyone feeling troubled at Roland Garros.

Labegorce prove too strong

By JOHN WATSON

LABEGORCE, the team put together by Hubert Perrodi, overcame John Manconi's Alcatel 9-8 to win the Guards Polo Club's premier high-goal prize, the Dunhill Queen's Cup, at Smith's Lawn, Windsor, yesterday.

The final was perhaps the closest encounter in a tightly fought tournament, challenged by ten teams over a three-week period.

The most forceful player was Alcatel's No 3, Pici Alberdi, who displayed the most remarkable facility for threading his pony through the opposition, always backed up by his Chilean No 2, Gabriel Donoso. That duo was faithfully served in defence by Anthony Fanshawe. Alberdi scored all eight of the loser's goals.

Labegorce triumphed by virtue of their one-goal handicap advantage. They presented a line-up of almost exactly similar ability, with a ten and an eight-handicap at the centre and a three handicap in the back slot. Milo Araujo's ball control is a joy to watch, while his accuracy in front of goal was fatal for Alcatel. It was a penalty conversion by Araujo, followed by a goal from Pepe Heguy's mallet in the last chukka that ultimately gave Labegorce their victory.

LABEGORCE: 1 H Perrodi (8), 2 M Araujo (8), 3 P Heguy (10), Back: M Soren (3), ALCATEL: 1 J Manconi (7), 2 G Donoso (8), 3 A Alberdi (10), Back: A Fanshawe (3)

Feasting on delights of Rustenburg



When, in the fullness of time, they ask me to name my most enjoyable afternoon's rugby overall, I shall not hesitate: "Rustenburg, June 3, 1995. Tonga v Ivory Coast, verily"... a word I took from the Gideon Bible.

The vibes for this event had been inauspicious. The local paper published a letter from a citizen who had encountered acute happiness at the previous match: endless queues causing him to miss the beginning, an hour-plus wait for egress. A Welsh linesman had observed that the folk of Rustenburg would be unable to organise a piss-up in a brewery. As the local drink is an undemanding brandy known as Klipdrif, he probably had a point.



play a tight game and, accordingly, Chalmers kicked 19 of the 26 times he received the ball, and passed only six times. Scotland demonstrated considerable physical presence, too, and Benetton and Accorberry suffered broken arms to prove it. Cronin was warned for stamping. Scotland's undoing was that, having led for the last 45 minutes, they could not hold on for one more. "Some things in life you deserve and I don't think we deserved to be beaten in that game," Douglas Morgan, the Scotland coach, said.

final. "I guess we are now feeling what the French felt in Paris a few weeks ago," the Scotland captain said.

"We have to go out now and play the game of our lives. France made history by beating the All Blacks twice last year. We must make history by becoming the first Scottish team to beat the All Blacks." One's heart went out to him, even though one's head said he was whistling in the dark.

SCORES: France Try 7, M'Gladness; Leptore, Purity goals. **LACROSSE** (6) France Try 10, M'Gladness, G Hastings, Purity goals. **HASTINGS** (4) France Try 1, Soudoury. **COLORADO** (5) France Try 1, Soudoury. **GOALS:** J. HASTINGS (4), J. Soudoury (4).

We had decided to make a day of it: Ivan to supply chocolates and wine; Mark to bring his four-year-old daughter and drive. Gill and India in charge of software, roast chickens and cream doughnuts. I made smoked salmon sandwiches from the side I had brought out and took an icebox filled with Klein Constantia Chardonnay and fruit juice.

security men who wore yellow jackets and walked back and forth; one wondered why. If ever there was an unlikely scenario for violence this was it: men and women wandered among the crowd selling ice-cream, bilongs and sun-bats; girls who had not previously encountered so large an audience preened themselves as they traipsed in front of the boys. Children played running games.

On the field of play, nothing took one's attention, though a general pattern emerged: Tongans are tougher than Ivorians; Ivorians are faster than Tongans; neither team would beat Orrell. If points were awarded for looking over your shoulder as you run with the ball, this might have been the highest-scoring game of all time.

After 20 minutes Ivan's provender had been consumed and it was decided to send a party to collect the rest of our stuff from the car boot. Lots were drawn, a couple dispatched, we waited. The siege of Ladysmith lasted 199 days, Mafeking in excess of seven months. Rustenburg was relieved in ten minutes, the scouts having talked their way out of the ground and returned with their boxes explaining, "We are the people who just went and are back."

Tickets?
No. Oh, all right.

On the pitch there were many stops for injury – one very serious: consultation; physiotherapy; referee speaking to linesman; half-time ... but the action was sloppy by the Tongans and ill-conceived by the Ivorians, whose every move forward was cheered by the crowd because (a) they are living locally, (b) they were the underdogs and (c) it was such a lovely afternoon.

With a quarter of an hour to go and the result assured, the crowd decided to take things into their own hands and executed a series of such wholehearted Mexican waves that the players slowed to watch us. Waves started at the far end of the stand, moved to the people sitting on the grass behind the posts, who went to some trouble and inconvenience to keep it going into the hospitality boxes, from which men in suits emerged to speed its passage along the near-side lane and on to the folk behind the far posts.

We did the wave clockwise and then anti-clockwise; we waved and laughed and collapsed and tried ever harder to perfect it. Then we glanced at the field and found that the players had gone. The final score was 29-11.

We left our drink in the car, except Ivan, who carried his in a plastic bag, and we were, all of us, patted about our bodies and let through. Ivan's hand baggage did not receive so much as a glance. Nobody asked us for tickets, which was fortunate. We had none. Nobody asked for money either, which was silly for I carried a wad of notes in my hand.

The ground is small and was bathed in sunshine. Two largish stands provide excellent views of the action and behind the posts are banks of sloping lawn with a few Transvaal olive trees to afford shade.

About 20 policemen and their Alsations sat on the perimeter track between us and the dead-ball line. The dogs were well behaved, though they growled at the

Australia	42
Romania	3

**FROM DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT
IN STELLENBOSCH**

THOUGH with less of a fanfare than four years ago, Australia safely negotiated their way to the quarter-finals of the World Cup in the first international to be played at the Danie Craven Stadium here on Saturday. In the process they have deflected, intentionally or not, attention towards South Africa and New Zealand while they endeavour to

recover the missing parts of their
own game

Like England, they have yet to fire on all cylinders, but four second-half tries against a Romanian side unable to sustain its forward effort for more than an hour acted as quite a restorative. The match also demonstrated that Joe Roff, only 19, may become a useful commodity on the wing, and the classically simple goalkeeping of John Eales.

Yet there is a greater predictability to these Australians. On Saturday, this was partly due to the absence of the mercurial David Campese, but they have yet to recover from the retirement two years ago of Nick

Farr-Jones. His judgment at scrum half and his linking with the back row was at the hub of so many positive movements and, not surprisingly, neither Peter Slattery nor George Gregan have the same skills.

But will Australia find the extra gear required for the quarter-final in Cape Town? The form of Eales has become critical for them, as ball-winner at the lineout, as a thundering force in the loose and here, where he took over from Matt Burke in the second half, as goalkicker.

Eales has played all three pool matches and they cannot afford to rest him now. So, too, has Tim Gavin, the steadying influence in the

back row and counterpoint to the rampaging Willie O'Fahengau or, here, lie Tabua. Australia need such workers, to tidy up their play at ruck and maul, where they turn over 100 many balls for comfort, and to give David Wilson the chance to forage wide in support of his backs.

Wilson deservedly picked up the final try of the match, by which time the Romanians were wilted. Trailing only 14-3 at the interval, having opened the scoring through Ivanciuc's dropped goal, they contested the lineout with great enthusiasm but their midfield handling constantly let them down and they did not come to terms with Raff.

SCORES: Australia: Tries: Roll (2), Foley, Burke, Smith, Wilson. Conversions: Estes (4), Burke (2). Romania: Dropped goal: Manciuc.

AUSTRALIA: M Burke (New South Wales), D Smith (Queensland), D Herbert (Queensland), T Horan

[illegible]

was fortunate. We had none. Nobody asked for money either, which was silly for I carried a wad of notes in my hand.

The ground is small and was bathed in sunshine. Two largish stands provide excellent views of the action and behind the posts are banks of sloping lawn with a few Transvaal olive trees to afford shade.

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Northamptonshire revelling in positive approach to set county championship pace

Lamb laps up chance to lead from the front



Simon Wilde on a captain keen to confront the problems of his team's underachievement

Alan Lamb always plays with a straight bat, metaphorically if not physically. Whether he has stood up to a menacing fast bowler, defended himself in the High Court or criticised a fellow cricketer for not pulling his weight, he never flinches from his task. He takes all his knocks on the chin, too.

Now, his bluff approach is being brought to bear on Northamptonshire's first-team affairs, which he is running single-handed for the first time since he finished playing for England in 1992 and gave himself full-time to the county. Phil Neale's departure for Warwickshire in March was not planned, but it suited Lamb, who felt that the presence of a manager was an encumbrance to his captaincy style.

He is doing a good job of showing it. Almost one-third of the way through the campaign, Northamptonshire, who have never won the county championship, are top of the Britannic Assurance table and Lamb, although he will be 41 later this month, is clattering the bowling as well as he ever did, despite suffering first from a hand injury, and now from a torn hamstring.

"We did not really need Phil," Lamb said as his team prepared for the match with the West Indians this weekend. "He was there to help players with their technique

and mental approach," — not areas that have much troubled Lamb personally — "but I always ran the playing side of things. I took on to the field the sides I wanted. We have several experienced players now and I feel that I can run things myself."

Only a few minutes earlier, Lamb's leadership technique had been on display in the nets. Lamb was telling Kevin Curran that he had batted well this season but was contributing little with the ball. Curran was saying he had trouble with his back.

For ten minutes, South African and Zimbabwean waned arms at each other in the manner of disputatious Italian car-drivers. "If that's his attitude," the captain was overheard to remark afterwards, "I'm not going to play him."

And he did not. Lamb then retired to the physiotherapist's table for treatment on his thigh, which prevented him, too, from playing against the touring team, and reflected on Northamptonshire's recent reputation for underachieving. In the past 14 years they have won only the NatWest Trophy, under Lamb in 1992.

"When I was captain and often away playing for England, some of the players needed some leadership to push them along," he said, recalling a time when he himself had favoured the presence of a manager. "We were

too relaxed. One of the problems with English players is that they are not arrogant enough. They are afraid to show who's boss out there. We have now got this attitude at Northampton: we believe we can win all the time. And for once we have got off to a good start this year."

Before the season began, Lamb gave himself and each of his players stiff personal targets for runs and wickets. If they get anywhere near them, the team will be sure to have had a good season. Lamb's own aim is to score 1,700 championship runs, and it is

one he is on course to accomplish as long as his injured hamstring does not restrict his appearances.

"The older I get, the harder it is to get over the injuries," he grunted from the treatment table, "but my weight is as low as it has been for a long time."

The physiotherapist appeared to be trying to push his elbow into Lamb's damaged thigh. Lamb has been pummeled like this for years, but not for many more. He retires, next year, after a testimonial season played out under another captain, so if he is to lead his side to championship

glory, it is now or never. If it does happen — and the team has finished in the top five in each of the last three years — much of the credit will be Lamb's for choosing Anil Kumble, the India Test player, as overseas player in succession to Curtly Ambrose.

"He has been a major success," Lamb said. "When he was signed, people said it was ridiculous going for a leg spinner, but he does not need pitches to be in his favour. He bowls quickly, with lots of top-spinners and googlies, and turns the ball away from the bat."

"He also has a fantastic attitude. He always wants the ball — he has already bowled 289 overs in the championship — and can tie up an end while I rotate the seamers at the other." Kumble was given a target of 100 championship wickets by Lamb, and has 31 already.

Another outstanding and unexpected success has been David Capel, who is determined to prove that he is not too old at 32 to return after two injury-ravaged years. Lamb expects Lancashire and Warwickshire to stay the distance with Northampton-

shire and, keen gambler though he is, he is not betting on the outcome. What his team has in its favour is depth of resources and the likelihood that none of its players will be lost to England.

Lamb's dressing-room is as strong and unified as it has been for years. It remains, one suspects, a place for men rather than boys, but Lamb is looking forward to handing over his place to the likes of Malachy Lloy, who languishes in the second XI, and the prodigious David Sales — and giving those tired old legs a well-earned rest.



Lamb's qualities as batsman and captain could help to bring the title to the County Ground for the first time. Photograph: Julian Herbert

Flying Finn Kytolehto dominates Scottish at first attempt

By a Correspondent

JARMO KYTOLEHTO, of Finland, driving a Vauxhall Astra, won the third round of the Mobil 1/Pop Gear British rally championship, the Perth Scottish rally, after an incident-packed final day yesterday.

The 33-year-old, in the competition for the first time, completed the 19 stages 3min 90sec ahead of Gregoire de Mevius, of Belgium, who recovered from losing three minutes with electrical problems on Saturday to bring his Nissan Sunny home second. Alain Orelle, of France, just failed to snatch second place after recording the fastest time around the final stage at the Knockhill racing circuit, but his third place takes the Renault Clio driver into the championship lead.

The six stages in the Scottish Borders on Saturday had set up a final-day confrontation. De Mevius seemingly lost all hope of victory on the first stage when he dropped three minutes with a repeat of the electrical problem that had sidelined his team-mate and the crowd favourite, Alister McRae, on the first stage of the rally.

That left the flying Finns, Kytolehto and Tapio Laukkanen, to trade fastest times. Laukkanen entering the rest halt at Dumfries with an eight-second overnight lead.

The drama began early for the 61 crews that restarted. Tapio Laukkanen hit a rock on stage 11, the first of the day, bent the steering of his VW Golf and lost the lead. On stage 13 he slid off into a ditch and rolled into retirement.

His VW team-mate, Dom Buckley, of Kelso, also had problems on the first stage, damaging the side of his car and losing a door.

Three stages later, Buckley went off again, dropping ten minutes and losing his hard-earned third place.

The most bizarre incident of the morning befell Malcolm Wilson, in his Ford Escort Cosworth. Rounding a fast corner near the end of stage 13, he found a closed gate across the road.

The gate had been open when rally safety officials had driven through the stage minutes earlier. Wilson swerved into a ditch to avoid the gate and damaged the radiator. He retired on the next stage with a blown head gasket.

Martin Rowe, the Manx man, also retired on stage 13 and rolled out of fourth place. Kytolehto's victory and de Mevius's place as runner-up moved them into joint second in the championship with two rounds remaining.

Results, page 32

Inconsistent Hampshire a microcosm of English game

By Alan Lamb

TO LOOK upon Hampshire is to see simultaneously all that is good and bad about modern county cricket. There is a charm and friendliness about the club, its modest size positively offset by grand plans for a futuristic, £15 million new base by the turn of the century. Yet where it matters, on the field, Hampshire show all the frailties and insecurities that beset the English game.

Their playing staff is too big, containing too many cricketers who fall into the categories of never-were or never-will-be good enough. And

their cricket significantly mirrors that of the present England side — capable of occasional heights and rapid regression to familiar troughs. It is the English malaise of inconsistency taken to extremes in their bizarre start to this season.

A fortnight ago, Hampshire had managed only two victories in all cricket. One was more a humiliation than a triumph, beating the Combined Universities because they had lost eight wickets as opposed to nine when the scores finished level. The other was a sound thrashing of the West Indies. Explanations on a postcard please...

Hampshire lost their first three games in the championship but,

suddenly, they have turned the form around and won two in succession. Moreover, they have won both inside three days, which heightens the bewilderment of it all because their three losses were also registered with a day to spare. We are into June, and Hampshire have played no cricket on a Monday.

Confidence, of course, has a large part to play in all this and a team that, until recently, was mutely expecting defeat is now in a better frame of mind. Heath Streak, the Zimbabwean farmer with an enviable Test record, has begun to locate an English line and rhythm for his bowling and Jim Bovie, one of the country's most promising seam

bowlers, is responding to him. Robin Smith, too, is starting to play with conviction again, as the England selectors have been quick to notice.

Smith finished off Glamorgan on Saturday, clubbing a brisk undefeated 30 to complete an eight-wicket victory. Glamorgan, having won their first two games, have failed to win any of their next four, their own self-confidence suffering as Hampshire's flourishes.

None of the top four counties is playing in the present round of matches, and it is a good one to sit out. Other than at Cardiff, only Taunton was permitted substantial play on a rain-swept Saturday and,

even there, Yorkshire must approach the final day with rare enterprise if they are to secure the win they need to stay in the leaders' shipstream.

Yorkshire's attack was neutered by a third century of the season from Richard Horden, one of the worthier products of the county system. Include a question about Horden in a pub quiz and there would be a minority who had heard of him and fewer still who would have any idea that his career average hovers around 40, the benchmark of the good player. With neither Lathwell nor Trescottick firing consistently, Somerset have depended upon him this summer as

much as their bowling has depended on Mushaq Ahmed, who will today play a crucial role as Yorkshire try to extend their overnight lead of 94.

Elsewhere, Derbyshire and Worcestershire remain well placed for victories, despite the complete loss of the third day, and Sussex, having declared 280 runs ahead of Gloucestershire, may well maintain their 100 per cent record at Hove.

Essex will doubtless be set a stiff fourth-innings target by Tim Robinson, of Nottinghamshire, and the only route to a result at Chester-le-Street, which has seen the equivalent of less than one day's play in three, is by forfeitures.

Spin doctor tends an ailing art of bowling

Pat Gibson talks to the Australian based in England whose coaching clinics have created county interest

Spin doctors are not exclusive to politics. There is one practising widely in English cricket. Many counties have consulted him and two, Surrey and Yorkshire, have him on regular call to treat a long-standing malaise.

Peter Philpott, who played for Australia eight times in 1965 and 1966 as a leg spinner, first became worried about the decline in spin bowling in the Seventies. Little and Thomson had captured the public imagination and Australian cricket was being dominated by pace or, failing that, containment.

Philpott's answer was to set up spin clinics all around the country, first unofficially, then with the blessing of the Australian board in a scheme called "spin Australia". His efforts came to full fruition in England in 1993 when Shane Warne and Tim May played a huge role in Australia's 4-1 Ashes triumph.

Around the same time, Philpott was finishing a three-year contract with

South Australia and, invited to England by Mike Gatting, he finished up at Russell School in Lancashire, teaching history, coaching rugby and, most significantly, looking after the cricket. Liam Bottom, son of Ian, was one of his pupils.

Within a fortnight, Mick Stewart, National Cricket Association director of coaching, who was painfully aware of the results Philpott had achieved, had asked him to speak at a coaching seminar — and his work snowballed from there. Yorkshire were the first to offer him a more permanent role. Surrey quickly followed. He splits his holidays between the counties.

Saturday found him at Worcester, where Surrey's latest championship match provided a perfect example of what he is up against. But for the rain, it could have been over inside three

days on a pitch that only Graeme Hick has turned with one of the most awesome innings of his career.

"Such wickets have been typical of the season," Philpott said. "You don't mind if the ball is moving laterally because of swing or spin but when the bounce is uneven and it is going up and down, it is difficult. You don't need spinners because medium-pace just have to bowl straight and wait for the wicket to do the work. The problem is that on Test wickets, bowlers like that haven't got what it takes to get good batsmen out."

"I think there is a renewed interest in spin bowling in England, probably because Warne and May came over here as wonderful examples of spinners who really give the ball a flick and a rip. This is what a lot of counties are looking for in four-day cricket but

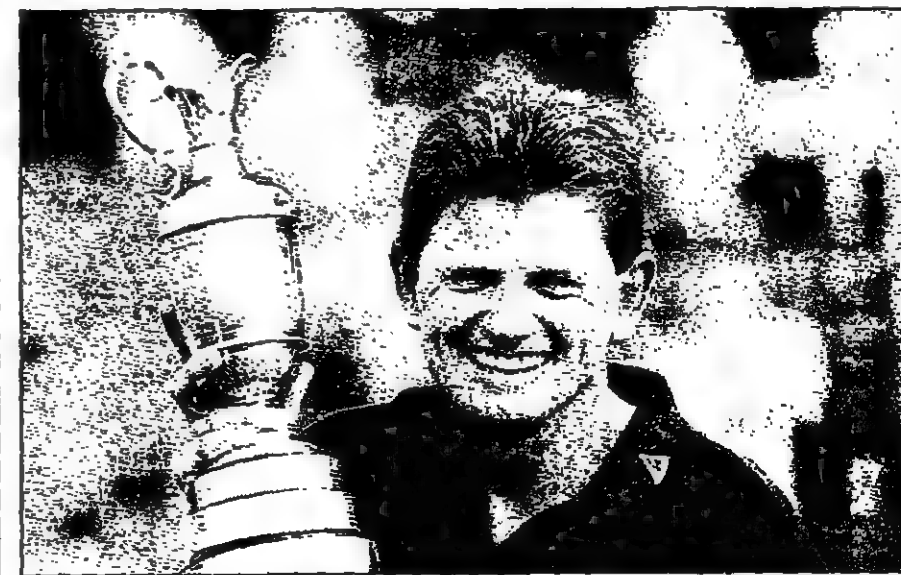
they don't appear magically from nowhere and we've got to find ways of developing them."

"The answer must be that wherever cricket is played we have to encourage spinners to be more involved. There have got to be people who are more interested in the development of players and long-term development of cricket than in short-term success."

Yesterday, Philpott approved of the surprise selection of Richard Illingworth, the Worcestershire spinner who has been playing in the match against Surrey, for the first Test. "I think Richard has suffered from having a reputation for just being a flat, negative, one-day bowler and I don't think that's fair," Philpott said.

"He was having to bowl in one-day and three-day cricket when a lot of the spin work was negative but from what I have seen, in four-day cricket he is a different bowler. He is prepared to fight the ball, he is turning it and he is very accurate. Among the spinners, he is right at the top."

THE TIMES Win a VIP trip to the Open, worth £2,000



Nick Price: winner of 1994 Open trophy at Troon, Scotland

Today, The Times and Schweppes, the official soft drink supplier to the Open, are offering readers the chance to win a VIP trip to St Andrews to watch the golf in style from a prime position.

The winner and his or her partner will travel by first class rail on Thursday, July 20 to Scotland, where they will be staying in the Stakis Dundee Hotel for two nights, enjoying dinner and a full Scottish breakfast each morning. On Friday, you will be given free course entry passes, a programme and Grandstand tickets by the 18th green.

Our winner will also be invited to spend the day in the exclusive Schweppes hospitality area on the 18th fairway enjoying morning coffee, a three course lunch with drinks and afternoon tea, whilst catching the action from the Pavilion's viewing balcony.

Twenty runners-up will each receive a Schweppes golf umbrella.

To win this superb prize, simply answer the two questions below and send your answers on a postcard to The Times Open Competition, 18-19 Whitefriars Street, London, EC8R 3NG, to arrive no later than Monday, June 12, 1995.

The winner will be selected at random from all correct entries received after the closing date and notified by post. The next 20 entries drawn at random will receive a Schweppes golf umbrella.

Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.

QUESTIONS

1. By what name is the Open championship trophy referred to?
2. Name the famous bridge on the 18th fairway at St Andrews?

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE county championship	
Glamorgan v Hampshire	
CARDIFF (third day of four): Hampshire (23.05) beat Glamorgan (4) by eight wickets	
HAMPSHIRE: First Innings 324 (M C Nicholas 75, J P Stephenson 63, H A G Anthony 5 for 77)	
Second Innings	
R S M Morris c Watson b Wain 4	
R P Terry b Wain 3	
J P Stephenson not out 14	
R A Smith not out 30	
Extras (nb 4) 4	
Total (2 wickets) 56	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-40, 2-17	
BOWLING: Wain 5-14-2, Anthony 3-17-3, Watson 3-1-5-0, Dale 1-5-0-16-0	
GLAMORGAN: First Innings 174	
Second Innings	
A Dale c Aynesworth b Loe 12	
H Morris c Aynesworth b Connor 23	
D L Harris c Stephenson b Bow 34	
P A Smith c Morris b Connor 5	
M P Playford b Loe 62	
R D B O'Brien c Morris b Stephenson 20	
S D Thomas c Loe b Stephenson 17	
N M Kendrick c Terry b Loe 1	
H A G Anthony c Connor b Smith 3	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-40, 2-38, 3-38, 4-88, 5-110, 6-140, 7-182, 8-204, 9-204	
BOWLING: Smith 14-1-4-41-3, Connor 17-4-6-25, Loe 21-4-41-2, Bow 10-4-24-1, Stephenson 12-5-27-2	
Umpires: J H Harris and B Leadbeater	
Nottinghamshire v Essex	
TRENT BRIDGE (third day of four): Nottinghamshire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 127 runs ahead of Essex	
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 314 (RT Robinson 101, W M Noon 63 not out, C L Cairns 50, J H Childs 4 for 74)	
Second Innings	
M P Downman not out 56	
R P Richardson b Smith 48	
G J Archer not out 48	
Extras (nb 2, nb 2) 4	
Total (1 wicket) 114	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-103	
BOWLING: Wain 7-20-0, Cousins 2-0-11-0, Childs 18-2-25-0, Smith 14-4-28-1	
ESSEX: First Innings	
G A Gooch c Evans b Hindson 46	
D D J Robinson c Downman b Cairns 5	
M E Waugh c Hindson b Cairns 7	
N Huseini c Evans b Hindson 32	
P J Pritchard c Barton b Hindson 109	
R C Brent bow b Aford 36	
J B Lewis bow b Pick 1	
R J Collins c Cairns b Pick 18	
P M Such c Pick b Hindson 1	
D M Collins bow b Hindson 17	
H Childs c Cairns b Hindson 18	
Extras (nb 1, nb 5, nb 4) 11	
Total (all 10 wickets) 301	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-33, 3-77, 4-118, 5-198, 6-201, 7-237, 8-288, 9-288	
BOWLING: Hindson 31-4-82-5, Pick 20-4-8-2, Cairns 11-4-0-2, Aford 17-5-52-1, Evans 20-7-48-0	
Bonus points: Nottinghamshire 7, Essex 7	
Umpires: J H Hampshire and G Sharp	
Somerset v Yorkshire	
TAUNTON (third day of four): Yorkshire, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 94 runs ahead of Somerset	
YORKSHIRE: First Innings 412 (A McGrath 84, D Byan 65, Mushaq Ahmed 5 for 128)	
Second Innings	
A McGrath b Mushaq 18	
P R Vaughan b Betty 10	
R D Stamp not out 0	
D Byan not out 0	
Extras (nb 4) 4	
Total (2 wickets) 32	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-32, 2-32	
BOWLING: Kerr 2-0-4-0, Ecclestone 3-0-10-0, Mushaq Ahmed 4-1-11-1, Betty 3-2-5-1	
SOMERSET: First Innings	
M N Lathwell c Bowen b Harby 61	
M E Trelecock c Bailey b Stamp 28	
P D Bowler c Bailey b Vaughan 48	
R J Horden not out 129	
A N Hayhurst c Harby b Stamp 6	
S C Ecclestone bow b Robinson 44	
R J Turner not out 19	
Extras (nb 4, nb 3, nb 6) 18	
Total (5 wickets down, 104.3 overs) 351	
J D Betty, Mushaq Ahmed, J D Kerr and H R J Trump did not bat	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-86, 2-118, 3-181, 4-180, 5-275	
BOWLING: Gough 18-3-5-72-0, Harby 12-3-29-1, Robinson 18-5-57-1, Stamp 27-7-7-2, Vaughan 17-4-52-1, Gleyson 8-4-5-0, Bowen 5-1-5-0, White 5-0-25-0	
Bonus points: Somerset 8, Yorkshire 4	
Umpires: R Julian and M J Kilchian	
Sussex v Gloucestershire	
HOVE (third day of four): Gloucestershire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 230 runs behind Sussex	
GLoucestershire: First Innings 202 (A Symonds 85, J Lewis 5 for 45)	
Second Innings	
A J Wright not out 6	
G D Hodgson not out 10	
BOWLING: Kerr 2-0-4-0, Ecclestone 3-0-10-0, Mushaq Ahmed 4-1-11-1, Betty 3-2-5-1	
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No play

CHESTER-LE-Street: Kent 272-8 (P A de Silva 83) v Durham.

LORDS: Derbyshire 267 (C M Wells 81, A S Robins 61, A R C Pinner 4 for 38) and 88-1; Middlesex 174 (J C Pooley 65 not out).

WORCESTERSHIRE: Worcestershire 204 (J E Benjamin 4 for 47, C G Rackemann 4 for 56) and 178-3 (G A Hick 120; Surrey 183 (A D Brown 50).

Tedley Bitter Challenge

NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v West Indians.

Other matches

THE PARKS: Oxford University 320 for 8 (C M Glick 87, W S Kennell 94; A S

Young British athletes finding out the hard way about life in the fast lane

Golding confident he can bridge senior gap

David Powell reports
on the sprinting talent
waiting to follow in
the Christie tradition

Julian Golding is not frightened by his own prediction. The world record for the 100 metres, at present 9.85 seconds, will, he estimates, be 9.72 or better by the time he is 35, Linford Christie's age now. Golding has 15 years to improve by just over half a second. "I would not be in the sport if I did not think I could do it," he said.

He was sitting in the main stand at Crystal Palace on Saturday, having just run third behind Solomon Wariso and Christie in a British League 200 metres. Golding will welcome any chance he is given to measure himself against Christie before the great man retires after the Olympics next year, as he said last week he would.

On the worst kind of day for sprinting, grey and wet, Christie was drawn in lane seven and Golding was unfortunate to have the lane outside him. "My main objective was not to let Linford catch me early," Golding said. Before the bend unfurled Christie, was past but Golding kept working, holding the gap to three metres.

This is an important year for Golding, not because it is a world championships summer but because it is a time when he must learn to live with losing. He is a graduate from the highly promising British junior sprinting class of '94. Three of that class — Jason Gardener, Ian Mackie and Golding — were among the fastest teenagers in the world last year.

However, the journey from junior to senior riches is across a rope bridge. Darren Campbell was the last successful junior British sprinter to attempt the crossing and the knots have looked unsafe. Campbell, the 100 and 200 metres junior world silver medal winner in 1992, was unable to make the British top 20 last year in his second senior season and has even been trying his luck in another sport, with football trials at Millwall, Plymouth Argyle and Dagenham and Redbridge.

Two years ago, Campbell spoke of the difficulty he was having in adjusting to life in the senior ranks. "I am used to winning, and I find losing hard to accept," he said at the world championships in Stuttgart when he was a member of the relay squad. That year Christie said of Campbell: "He can be the one to pick up where I leave off. His problem is going to be surviving the next two years as a senior."

At least Campbell is holding on to the bridge, running a relay leg for the North last month in an area match. "He is still involved but not 100 per cent," Keith Antoine, Britain's national event coach for sprints, said.

Athletes who were good junior internationals find suddenly that their supply of airline tickets has dried up. Golding, who reached the world junior 100 metres final last year, said he knows not to expect too much too soon. "We have a lot of juniors who go wrong because they go out there thinking they have to do



The formidable figure of Christie is poised to strike as Golding leaves the blocks in the British League 200 metres at Crystal Palace. Photograph: Andre Camara

it straight away," Golding said. "I believe I can do it because I have a good coach and good mental attitude."

Gardener, the world junior 100 metres runner-up last year, approached the season ready for a bruising. "I am going to get thrashed week in, week out," he said. "It is going to be a hard learning process. I am on a two-year approach to 1996. That is when I want to come out flying."

If the new TSB rankings are a yardstick, Britain's future is with sprinting. The rankings were designed to compare performance across the disciplines and Gardener, from Bath, Golding, from Harlesden, and Mackie, from Durnferline, are all among the top six. "The

future is looking good for British sprints," Mackie, the world junior 200 metres bronze medal-winner, said. "We want to keep up the tradition once Linford leaves."

Mackie had a foretaste of life among the seniors last year when he was invited to Gateshead for a 200 metres that included Frankie Fredericks, the world champion. He finished last. "To be expected," was his verdict. Put off? "No, you have got to take the rough with the smooth." He thinks he should be ready by 1997.

Antoine identifies the weaknesses in the bridge. "Juniors on that level are used to winning and, as seniors, that ceases to be the case. In the

United Kingdom, when they are selected, they are looked after like little people.

"There is always someone helping them. When you leave the juniors, you look after yourself. Leaving the

'It is an important year for him because he must learn to live with losing'

junior ranks coincides with going away to university, which means leaving the training group they have worked with, or going to work for seven hours a day then training."

An under-23 British squad helps

to ease the transition and Antoine points to another important alteration. "We have changed the coaching structure," Antoine said. "We used to have a national event coach who dealt with sprinters while they were juniors and a different coach who dealt with the seniors. Recently, it was split between men and women so the same national event coach could follow them all the way through."

This week Golding will be back training with Mike McFarlane's group at Harrogate. Racing against Christie in the British League and working with a training squad that includes John Regis, Darren Braithwaite and Tony

Jarrett, Golding is in one of the world's best breeding grounds. "It bolts down the mental attitude," McFarlane said.

Braithwaite, world indoor silver medal-winner at 60 metres, has broken through after years of trying. "Being around these guys, Julian knows that it is not going to come overnight. It is hard and the competition is rough," McFarlane said. Golding, though, at least sounds determined to stay the course.

Sally Gunnell is hoping to lead the Great Britain women's team into the European Cup in Lille on June 24, despite recent Achilles tendon trouble. Gunnell will have her first training session over hurdles today with a view to opening her season in Nuremberg on June 15.

Top seed Prebble sets record to retain 25-mile title

By PETER BRYAN

RICHARD PREBBLE'S heart rate reached 187 beats a minute yesterday with the effort of retaining his national 25-mile time-trial cycling title at Farndon, Cheshire.

As defending champion — and also Britain's ten-mile and 50-mile title-holder — he was top seed of the 120 accepted entrants starting at one minute intervals and set off last.

The 27-year-old rider, from Cheltenham, had spent 45 minutes on a gentle warm-up ride in the area and was unaware that one of his principal rivals, Geoff Platts, the veteran rider, had recorded the fastest time of 53min 09sec.

Prebble, riding a new £1,500 carbon-fibre bike, had planned to "give everything" for the first five miles into a head wind, having covered the course in a trial run on Friday.

At the halfway point, a time check showed that he was 30 seconds ahead of Platts, with Ray Eden, a London bike courier, third, a further 12 seconds behind.

Prebble built on his lead during the return run, which included the 1.5-mile climb of Marford Bank six miles from the finish and crossed the line in 52min 03sec.

"That last climb made me change into a lower gear and get out of the saddle," he said as local specialists confirmed that he had taken well over a minute off the course record.

Eden took the bronze medal in 53min 42sec in a championship in which some of the favourites never appeared comfortable on the undulating course.

Prebble takes another step today in his ambition to be an international all-round performer when he makes his debut in a 4,000 metres pursuit with a trial on the Manchester indoor track. Prebble will head a British team in the three-day French amateur Tour de l'Oise this month.

Tony Rominger, of Switzerland, recorded his first win in the Giro d'Italia, which ended in Milan yesterday, finishing more than four minutes ahead of his main rivals, Evgeny Berzin, of Russia, and Piotr Ugrumov, of Latvia. The final 148km stage was won by Giovanni Lombardi, of Italy, in 3hr 32min 53sec.

A confident Rominger started the race as clear favourite after Miguel Indurain, of Spain, announced he was not taking part. Indurain said he wanted to concentrate on preparation for the Tour de France, where he is aiming for a fifth consecutive victory.

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Photograph, page 32

THE TIMES
Crème
14-16 JUNE
95

- Are you genuinely committed to developing the full potential of your PA?
- Do you rely heavily on the skills, expertise and initiative of your secretary?
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Monarchs fumble away last chance

Amsterdam Admirals... 17
London Monarchs... 7

By RICHARD WETTS

THIS ignominious defeat for the Monarchs in the World League of American Football ended any realistic hopes they had of returning to play Amsterdam in the World Bowl. Their record in the second half of the season is 2-2 and even if other results go their way they are likely to lose out on the tie-breaks — a club's record in the first half of the season or points difference.

The game on Saturday ended in a sour fashion with a push-and-shove session after the Monarchs took exception to the Admirals celebrating an interception.

Once the officials had regained some sort of order, Chris Lunsberg and Terrance Wisdom were thrown out of the game, along with Mike Anderson, of the Admirals. Herbie Morris, of the Monarchs, had been ejected earlier.

Having three players ejected was not the only unwanted league record the Monarchs established, for, in addition to nine turnovers, they also had a field-goal attempt blocked and let another running back rush for more than 100 yards. All this against a side led by its third-string quarterback for most of the game.

The Monarchs remained in touch until late into the fourth quarter as a touchdown by Tony Brooks made the score 14-7. The Admirals replied immediately with a Terry Belden field goal.

Schools draw on traditional virtues

By JOHN GOODBODY

NOT even unrelenting drizzle, interrupted by sharp showers, can stop prep school cricket. "It is our Corinthian spirit," Rhidian Llewellyn, the headmaster of Papplewick, whose six fixtures against Haileybury Junior School were completed with aplomb in Berkshire on Saturday, said.

Whereas country cricketers might have been inclined to leave the field, the boys aged from eight to 13 continued to play with enthusiasm. A wet wicket? No problem. Teams played on artificial pitches or just coped with the unseasonably conditions. What was striking was the correctness of approach. The well-drilled attitude of both schools, with their technical proficiency, loud calling and alert fielding, would have warmed any traditionalist's heart.

It is confidently, and prob-

SPORT
IN SCHOOLS

bly correctly, asserted that cricket is now less popular in most state schools, and possibly even at public schools, where a much earlier start to the summer term and the increasing importance of A levels has diminished the prominence of England's national summer game. However, any declining interest in cricket is less evident at prep schools.

John Hare, the headmaster of Haileybury Junior, has

been teaching at independent schools since 1962. He said: "A great deal depends on whether boys come from families where cricket is popular. There are now fewer boys who are students of the game, who pore over Wisden."

"However, there are still boys who love the game, even if they are not particularly good at it. Prep schools have to have people available to keep that interest going, as we do." He pointed out that, whereas at one stage there was only cricket in the summer term, there are now inter-school matches in sports such as athletics and swimming.

Kwik-cricket, the playground form, is popular. Robert Spencer, the master in charge of cricket at Haileybury Junior, said: "It gets them out and running about. It can encourage bad habits, like hitting across the line, but it certainly sparks their inter-

est." At Papplewick, Llewellyn, who has been teaching since 1975, believes the interest is as high as ever. "You see it in March when playground cricket starts up and boys are queuing up to play," he said.

Joanne Wallace, who coaches the under-nine rugby team, said: "After two terms of rugby, everyone switches over to cricket. It is nice to see the boys adapt to a completely different sport."

Both schools have benefited from having artificial surfaces, so allowing more inter-school games to be completed. However, last summer, despite this facility, Haileybury still could not play on four Saturdays because of the weather. Hare says: "This is not only half the playing season gone, but half the learning season as well."

The Papplewick boys will certainly learn from their scheduled tour of Zimbabwe next March, just as the rugby players did when they toured New Zealand last year in what they believed to be the first visit to the country by an English prep school. At home, Papplewick's first XV collected a record 409 points and reached the last eight of the Rosslyn Park prep schools' sevens.

On Saturday, Papplewick first XI declared at 140 for four after Tristan Rodgers and John Mark Fitzpatrick had put on 79 for the first wicket. Haileybury were 21 for six, but Kyle Nathan and Charlie Fisher steered them to safety at 60 for six.

Ben Coombes, the head of sport at Papplewick, said: "Our boys will try to call it a winning draw. We tell them that there is no such thing. It was a draw." Some traditions, in English sport, happily remain unchanged.

Schools results, page 32



Rodgers, who shared a 79-run first-wicket stand for Papplewick, swings a ball to leg

John Goodbody on the Chemical Bank Corporate Challenge — a three-and-a-half mile run in Battersea Park

A short and sweet team run

Not everyone has the time to prepare for a marathon, but everyone can complete in a 3½-mile road race. And now is the time to prove it. Steady training for five weeks and you will be ready to take part with the rest of your colleagues in the Chemical Bank Corporate Challenge at 6.45pm on Wednesday, July 12.

The race, which is being supported by The Times, takes place in Battersea Park, south London, and is the third largest road race in Britain. Only the London Marathon and the Great North Run have more participants. The Corporate Challenge is restricted to full-time employees of companies and corporations in the United Kingdom.

A total of 5,930 male and female runners, representing 460 companies, took part in the race last year, almost three times as many as in the first race in 1986. Of course, there were some international athletes at the front of the field last year: Eamonn Martin, winner of the 1993 London Marathon and representing Ford, was first.

For these runners, the race acts as a qualification for the Chemical Bank final, which takes place in New York on October 7. Eighteen cities will be sending their entrants to America.

However, most runners will be those who fit in the odd run between work and home. The event brings people together to show a sense of pride in their companies and their city. Morgan Stanley sent a record number of entrants of more than 150 in 1994, many of them competing in a race for the first time as adults.

SPORT FOR ALL



Most runners fit in the odd run at lunchtime

ence is not too painful. Unless you are used to regular physical exercise, such as squash or football, it is advisable to get clearance from your doctor before running. You cannot be too careful.

It is easy to fit in a few sessions, either before or after work or at lunchtime, when you can run or go to a gymnasium and use a treadmill, stair-climber or one of the other aerobic machines.

If you have not run regularly before, try to get in some steady jogging for 20 to 30 minutes, at least three times a week. Begin very slowly for the first two weeks, making certain that you can talk easily as you exercise. If this is an effort, you are going too fast.

However, if you are worried about your fitness to run continuously for this length of time, then alternately walk 60 yards and run 60 yards, before progressing to a steady run. Do some light stretching movements before you start exercising.

Buy a pair of shoes by going to a specialist shop. Make certain you get advice about the most appropriate pair for your ambitions.

It always helps to have a training partner. It can add to motivation and increase the safety of your running.

You do not have to lead a spartan existence over the next few weeks. Alcohol can be taken, provided you do not drink too much too often.

Running has also to take its place alongside your other commitments but try to exercise regularly. It will make the experience of the Chemical Bank Corporate Challenge all the more enjoyable and satisfying on July 12.

ENTRY forms for the Chemical Bank Corporate Challenge, which is organised by the London Marathon, can be obtained from 071-620 4117. The 3½-mile team road race is open to employees of corporations, businesses and financial institutions. Companies may enter an unlimited number of runners and teams at all levels of ability.

Runners are scored on a team basis. There are three competitions: a men's event, a women's and mixed. Scoring teams consist respectively of five men, three women and a mixed team of two men and two women. However, each runner may be placed in only one team (ie, a female runner cannot be placed in both a women's and mixed team).

Each company appoints a captain who co-ordinates the entries and completes the score cards.

All runners note their own time, which will appear on the digital clock above the finish line, and then give their results to their captain. All times are verified by officials using CCTV and any falsification will lead to the disqualification of the whole company.



Streaming along the seaford at Barmouth, athletes in last year's Welsh Castles Relay. It is one of the most exhilarating and challenging events of its kind

Across Wales, from castle to castle

Jane Blunden looks forward to the two-day Welsh Castles Relay from Caernarvon to Cardiff Castle

One of the most exhilarating and challenging events of its kind in the UK sports calendar is the PowerGen Welsh Castles Relay, which takes place next weekend. This unique two-day road relay will bring together around 1,000 runners, from all parts of the British Isles, to race in teams from Caernarvon to Cardiff Castle — a distance of 210 miles.

The relay is raced in 20 stages. The maximum number of 45 teams is entered for this year's event. Famous names to have competed for their clubs in the past include Steve Jones, Neil Horsfield, Dennis Fowles and Steve Brace. This is the fourteenth year of the race and it has grown beyond all hopes and dreams.

"The Welsh roads, and not the sky, are the limit," Reg Rossiter, the race organiser, says. In the first castle relays from 1982 to 1985, the standard relay format was employed with each runner handing over to a team-mate at a pre-designated changeover point. The runners ran through the night and Mike Davies described the silence and blackness of running over the Brecon Beacons as "just running into a black hole with no ending".

Happily, the race now takes place in daylight hours so that the beauty of the Welsh countryside, with its flinty hardness of slate-filled mountains and majestic wooded hollows, can be seen. As the runners disappear into the sunlight or misty hills, fantastic stories of mythical Wales, of Norsemen and of Celts, of King Arthur and his days fill the mind as the race moves from castle to castle. Each stage is arranged as a separate race. All the runners start their stage together when the first runner of the preceding stage arrives. Within the main event there is a "Kings and Queens of the Mountains" competition, rather like the Tour de France cycle race, in which the individuals and clubs which do the best over six of the most gruelling mountainous stages are awarded the title. This tough section of the race is sponsored by British Steel.

Tension is tangible throughout the race. John Walker, organiser of the Serpentine Running Club teams, says: "It is a hard race by any standards, but it is also great fun. It brings the best out of every runner."

Last year's "Queens of the Mountains" title was awarded to the Serpentine Ladies, who had among their team Hilary Walker, the world-record-holding ultra-distance runner. She has competed in many long-distance events, including that from Lhasa to Kathmandu in the Himalayas.

Although there is competition, teams help each other with water and directions en route. Each runner runs between 8.1 and 12.6 miles and in

some stages, such as the undoubtedly difficult fifth stage on the second day, much of the course is uphill.

Between Builth Wells and Drovers Arms, the terrain is undulating for seven miles and very steep for the remaining five where the average gradient is one in five.

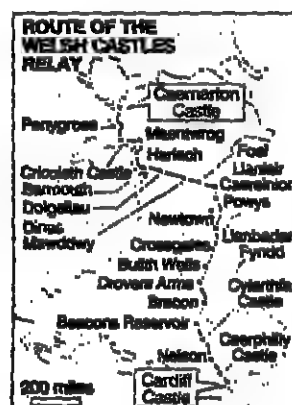
The big question for this year's event is whether the UK

Land Forces team, which was narrowly defeated by last year's winners, Swansea Harriers, will at last claim a victory. In 1991, in an even closer race, after 19 hours of running Land Forces were beaten to the title by just 42 seconds by Les Croupiers Running Club.

This thrilling race ends at Cardiff Castle with great cele-

brations and an awards ceremony. The main event is sponsored by PowerGen, which has financed the relay for five years and is ensuring the future of this well-organised two days.

"The word camaraderie sums it all up," a tired but happy runner told me last year as he stretched out a hand for a pint of cold beer.



SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

As East at Game All, playing teams, you pick up:

♠10 ♥K78 ♦AK8 ♣KQJ832

South opens the bidding with One Spade, partner passes and to your surprise North bids Two Clubs. What do you bid? Many players, when the opponents bid a suit in which they are strong, assume the opponents are psyching. They make some wild bid to expose the psyche and get a poor result. In my experience, the most likely reason an opponent bids your suit is that he has got it. It is much better to pass and await developments.

This is what I did when I held this hand at the Spring Foursomes. The auction continued: South Two Diamonds, North 2NT, South Three Diamonds, North Three Spades, South Four Spades. I was just getting ready to double this when it came back to me when I heard my partner, Tony Forrester, double.

Like my old partner Jeremy Flint, Forrester is one of those players who has the knack of bidding your hand for you. This was the full deal:

Dealer South	Game all	IMPs
♠J4 ♥AQ32 ♦52 ♣10654	♠10 ♥K78 ♦AK8 ♣KQJ832	
♠Q932 ♥J109854 ♦963 ♣-	♠AK8755 ♥- ♦QJ1074 ♠87	

Contract: Four spades doubled by South. Lead: Jack of hearts

Par play on the hand is for East to win the first diamond and give West a club ruff. That way the defence comes to four tricks. In practice it didn't go like that and the declarer somewhat misread the position and went two down. After we had lost the match I asked our teammate Andrew Robson what he thought of the double. He said it was a "Frightener Double". You might couple that with "Lightner" as the basis of a limerick.

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ACESCENT

- a. Sour
- b. Growing bigger
- c. A strong smell

XYSTER

- a. An African zither
- b. A bone-scraper
- c. A cleg or horse-fly

AEAEAE

- a. Magic
- b. A walling wake
- c. A Finnish nose-whistle

ONIOMANIA

- a. A passion for onions
- b. Fear of crowds
- c. Love of shopping

Answers on page 42

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Reunification Doubts

IN AN interview concerning his chances against Vasily Anand in the PCA World Championship match set for Cologne in September/October, Garry Kasparov said: "My chances against Anand are 6-4 in my favour, but it will be a close match. As far as the reunification match between the Professional Chess Association and the World Chess Federation (FIDE) is concerned, if I beat Anand and Karpov beats Kamsky in the FIDE match, then I would be prepared to defend my title." It is significant that Kasparov refused to commit himself as to whether he would actually play a reunification match if the American grandmaster, Gata Kamsky, were to defeat Anatoly Karpov. The conditions and date of the FIDE Championship have yet to be set. If Kasparov and Kamsky win their respective PCA and FIDE matches and Kasparov then refuses to play Kamsky, it would throw the whole reunification strategy between FIDE and the PCA, worked out in Moscow last year, into disarray.

Short Slips

Nigel Short's fine run in the Novgorod PCA Super-Classic was halted in round six when he was crushed by his bete noire, the Ukrainian grandmaster Vassily Ivanchuk. Short's strategy as White against the Sicilian Defence was simple and Ivanchuk rapidly seized all the strategic advantages which this defence frequently offers.

White: Nigel Short

Black: Vassily Ivanchuk

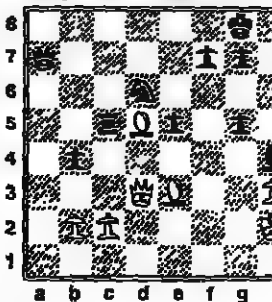
Novgorod, June 1995

Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5

2 Nf3 d6

Diagram of final position

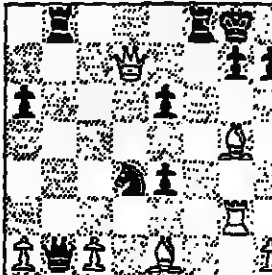


Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Westermen - Sigurjonsson, New York, 1977. Although White is a piece up Black has tremendous threats against his king. How did White solve his problems in dramatic fashion?



Solution on page 42

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Bruno's bid for world title to be staged at Wembley

1

Celtic Swing digs deep for victory

CORRELATION SPECIALISTS

Baird, 12 meadow; Harry 20 meadows; 99.6% - All H
 11, 27.8%; S Kestrelwood; 6 Acacia, 24, 25.0%, P
 Area 142, 21.8%; J Barry, 5 Acacia, 2 from 24, 21.1%, P Harz
 11, 27.8%; S Kestrelwood; 6 Acacia, 24, 25.0%, P

Here, therefore, is a layman's guide to the stamina credentials of Derby runners. An allowance for the class of each horse has been taken into account. Anything with an index below seven would not conform to what has come to be expected of a Derby winner's pedigree: Court Of Honour 6, Humbel 7, Istisda 6, Larumtara 8, Mumwar 7, Pennekamp 8, Presenting 6, Riyadian 6, Salmon Ladder 5, Sebastian 9, Spectrum 6, Tamure 9, Vettori 5.

1985 Derby winner, Slip Anchor. Like Tamure, a son of Sadler's Wells and the Oaks third, Three Tails, Sebastian will not lack for

Here, therefore, is a layman's guide to the stamina credentials of Derby runners. An allowance for the class of each horse has been taken into account. Anything with an index below seven would not conform to what has come to be expected of a Derby winner's pedigree: Court Of Honour 6, Humbel 7, Istisda 6, Larumtara 8, Mumwar 7, Pennekamp 8, Presenting 6, Riyadian 6, Salmon Ladder 5, Sebastian 9, Spectrum 6, Tamure 9, Vettori 5.

in 18 winners from 50 rides, 36.0%, J Weaver. J Carroll, 46 from 117, 21.8%, K Dorley, 47 from 117, 21.8%, D Wharton, 48 from 151, 25.3%.

—



EDUCATION

Can I survive the exams?

Ben Preston offers a guide to help candidates keep their sanity during the next few weeks

The moment of truth is at hand for an army of teenagers. After anxious months of solitary toil, the examination season has begun in earnest. Over the coming weeks, the futures of thousands of hopefuls will be determined by their ability to perform in the fevered quiet of the exam hall.

Yet even if all candidates arrived for their exams with equal knowledge and ability, some would manage to boost their grades considerably by virtue of technique. Sitting an examination is a skill in itself. Exam craft can be learned, practised and honed. Common errors can be recognised and avoided.

Similarly, candidates can help themselves by preparing carefully in the last days before an examination. The establishment of a routine helps to focus the mind on the task ahead and minimises the risk of distraction. Last-minute panics are distracting, a waste of energy and counter-productive.

A day or two before: This is the cut-off point beyond which any attempt to learn fresh material is fruitless. After weeks of study it is important to clear the mind, not cloud it. Refresh your memory of key points by going through summaries of your notes. Check the style of questions used in the past. Limber up by thinking of brief points you might make in an answer, rather than getting confused by regurgitating all the half-relevant facts you have stored.

Double-check the time and location of each examination to eliminate any potential for mix-ups. Get ready all the equipment you will need. Accumulate spare pens, ink, pencils and, if necessary, a calculator and second set of batteries. Check again what equipment and texts you are allowed to take into each exam.

Health, food and beauty sleep: Stability is the key to keeping body and mind together in the last few hours. Try not to vary your diet or sleep patterns dramatically. Research shows that if students are used to having breakfast, their academic performance suffers when it is missed. But surprisingly, people who never eat breakfast do



not do so well if one is suddenly provided.

The same holds true for tea and coffee. While it may be traditional to work with a cup of black coffee, be careful to avoid drinking too much caffeine during long hours of study. It may impair rather than enhance performance.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford advises against the seasoned tactic of revising all night immediately before an exam. He insists that sleep routines should not be varied and that cramming into the early hours simply creates additional anxiety. Remember that the examination season is a marathon, not a sprint. There is no point in giving your all for one paper only to limp through the rest as a physical wreck.

D-Day: Give yourself plenty of time on the day of your exam so you can run through your equipment check once more. Eat as you are used to, but don't drink too much. Leave the house with time to spare. A walk can be invigorating. Try not to arrive too early or talk about the examination with friends before you go in.

In the exam room: Lay out your equipment carefully. Not only will this ensure you know where to find

everything, but it is also a useful little ritual to settle the nerves. Do not panic. If you find yourself getting over-anxious, compose yourself and start again. Do not be afraid to take a short walk if things get really difficult.

Read right through the exam paper very carefully. Check the instructions to ensure you are clear about exactly how many questions have to be answered from various sections of the paper. Which are compulsory and which are optional?

Plan your time scrupulously. Look at the marks offered for each question as a guide to how long you should spend on each. If you attempt only three-quarters of the paper, you could lose a quarter of the available marks at a stroke.

If you are unsure of anything, do not hesitate to ask an invigilator. Complain if something is disturbing your concentration — someone tapping, a distant music lesson, or the invigilator's new shoes.

Learn from others' mistakes: Every year examiners recite a litany of common errors. Yet each summer, the same pitfalls claim fresh victims. The most common — and calamitous — mistake is a failure to read each question and

answer it precisely. There are no marks for answering a different question from the one set.

This is the heart of the matter. Candidates who have revised thoroughly using past papers are particularly prone to answering the questions they had hoped for. Once in the exam hall, too many candidates scan the question, think they recognise it and switch on the autopilot without engaging the brain.

Examiners are well aware of such tendencies. Some questions will be set deliberately to catch out the unaware — following previous patterns, yet sufficiently different to catch out the careless. Markers keep a ruthless eye out for candidates who simply repeat rehearsed answers on a broad theme and miss the thrust of a question.

Wandering off the point is another, related sin. It is useful to identify important words in the questions. Underline, circle or even write out the key instructions separately in capital letters and then make sure you address each one in turn.

Overcome clumsy planning by setting down the key points you want to make before you start. Order them carefully as this will help you to structure essays written

at pace. In English-based subjects, particularly at A level, quality is valued above quantity.

Candidates should try to make sure their answers are presentable. Examiners faced with piles of scripts do not have the time to admire the most brilliant essay if it is written in illegible scrawl. Clear diagrams which have been correctly labelled will help answers in some subjects.

Always leave enough time at the end of the exam to read through your work. This gives a last chance to correct any horrendous misspellings or grammatical outrages, simply to insert any words that might have been missed out.

Aftermath: Avoid the temptation of lingering with your friends to indulge in highly detailed post-mortems. Instead, enjoy a spot of mental relaxation, give yourself a treat, and then move on to the next examination. If your performance has been hindered by illness or other circumstances, however, tell your school immediately.

● The Associated Examining Board has helped to produce a booklet called *How to do Better in Exams*. Free copies can be obtained from Dept XDC, Barclays Bank, CRSD, Marfair, Northampton NN1 1SG, quoting ref AEB1.

The fight for young minds

Advertisers are bombarding American schoolchildren as they sit in class

Marilyn Harris, a teacher of Spanish at a Nashville, Tennessee, high school, was outraged to discover she was expected to suspend lessons while her students watched Channel One, a satellite broadcast of ten minutes of news and two minutes of commercials fed to 350,000 classrooms across America every school day.

The controversial television hook-up is only one of many ways US corporations are bombarding schoolchildren with commercial messages. These include: billboards in corridors, lavatories and on school buses; commercials interspersed with rock music piped into lobbies and cafeterias; posters, videos and study kits that provide some instruction along with outright plugs for products. Then there are giveaways, quizzes, contests and coupon-collecting schemes.

Alarm over these commercial pressures has been raised in a scathing report by Consumers Union, publishers of the American equivalent of *Which?* "Captive Kids" concludes that the burgeoning business of selling to schoolchildren has penetrated classrooms largely unchecked.

An 18-month investigation found many biased and manipulative claims in study materials sent to schools; among them, that eating meat makes people taller; stripping hillsides of trees is good for the environment; no species are endangered; sweet cereals are good for you.

Ms Harris held out for three days against Channel One, despite furious protests from her class, until she was told the school had signed a contract which made showing the programme mandatory. Months later, she says: "I continue to look on Channel One as a scandalous waste of time. Only a few students watch, some do homework, and the rest just socialise."

Her one satisfaction is that her

students agree to turn off the sound during commercials for bubble gum, mouthwash, soft drinks, acne cream, crisps, chocolate bars and athletic shoes.

Firms are willing to pay nearly \$200,000 (£125,000) for a single 30-second commercial on Channel One, knowing it will reach an audience of eight million youngsters. The numbers indicate the tremendous buying power of America's elementary and secondary schoolchildren: some \$72 billion (£45 billion) a year.

Channel One provides client schools with a TV set in every classroom and VCRs, but Consumers Union argues that school administrators are entrusted to instruct students, not expose them to advertising.

Several states are dubious about Channel One, but only New York has barred it from state-run schools.

Jim Ritts, president of network affairs for Channel One, says "Captive Kids" is so slanted as to be "a piece of garbage".

In-school commercialism is at its worst, says the report, when masquerading as educational materials that too often offer half-truths or mis-statements favouring sponsors.

The report examines material of varying quality from oil, utility, food and insurance firms, banks and credit-card companies. It also looks at agencies that place it. One solicits business from corporations with an advertisement that, above the photograph of a five-year-old boy, has the headline: "Reach him at the office."

"Captive Kids" concedes hard-up schools are tempted by sponsorship but insists teachers should subject sponsored material to the same stringent reviews as for other curriculum sources.

The report concludes: "We believe that parents and educators must unite to make schools advertising-free zones where young people can pursue learning free from commercial influences and pressures."

IAN BRODIE

A head teacher gets to grips with a year's secondment to the 'real world' of work, as politicians do battle over the future of the careers service

Teacher on a learning curve

Trading places is a daunting prospect for a career teacher. We have all suffered those finger-jabbing assaults from disgruntled parents: "The trouble with you head teachers is that you're out of touch. What future has UK plc if our education system is run by liberal-minded softies who don't know what life is really like in the harsh economic climate of the 1990s?" Such sentiments were still ringing in my ears as I arrived at Royal Mail on my first day of a one-year stretch as a so-called quality manager.

The aim of the innovative Headteachers into Industry, based at the University of Warwick, is twofold. By allowing head teachers to experience a management role in a commercial organisation it seeks to aid their professional and personal development. More importantly, it allows them an insight into the employment market which awaits their pupils.

My induction was punishing. I discovered the delights of delivering letters in the pouring rain on a sprawling Sheffield housing estate, and encountered the discipline of meeting deadlines on night shift in the sorting office. My learning curve — the first of many business terms — was steep. I was inundated with information. Even as an educationist, I found management-speak incomprehensible. Is benchmarking a punishable offence committed in science labs? And what is downsizing? The humiliation of a recalcitrant pupil?

I am currently attempting to make a small contribution to this vast and complex Royal Mail, by helping a team of delivery office staff to find new ways of improving their service to the customer. We are using an analytical technique to identify points where we can improve the mail handling. I received special training for this which will help me to identify ways of improving management and teaching when I return to headship.



Charles Sisum: from head teacher to Royal Mail and back

This constant reference to "the customer" is one immediate and obvious contrast with teaching. The Royal Mail is impressive and rigorous in the way it seeks out customer comment, listens to it and works hard to improve service. In all honesty, we haven't been very good at that in the world of education, where we still tend to think that we know what is best for our customers, and how jolly glad they should be, too.

Yet much of my time in the Quality Team is spent in meetings. After the criticism from colleagues in school that we have far too many meetings it is strangely comforting to find parallel complaints in another organisation. Everybody wants to be consulted but nobody wants to go to meetings any more! The answer lies in making meetings as effective and well managed as possible. Again, I received training in the skills of chairing and organising meetings. These will be put to the test when I return to school.

Another feature of business is concern for "the bottom line". Questions about improvement have a clear focus. "Will it make us more competitive?" "Can we cut more costs but keep up quality?" "How do we measure progress?" Defining terms such as quality, customer and bottom line are not easy in schools. However, they could be much more demanding in monitoring and measurement.

Scrutiny of staff performance is exacting and provides another contrast. My work in Royal Mail is to be assessed by the team I lead. I will receive a summary of their views on my performance as a leader. I will then be expected to discuss it with them, in order to do better next time. This is certainly a powerful tool for increasing my effectiveness.

Leadership is much discussed in education texts and school inspection reports, but how often do we really address our effectiveness as head teachers? Teacher appraisal schemes tend to be too cosy. I hope I have the courage to implement such leadership review schemes for myself and my colleagues when I return to headship.

Yet I have discovered parallels as well as contrasts. The so-called "real" world exists in both education and commerce. The pressure on frontline managers is enormous in schools as well as commercial organisations. Both are living through paroxysms of change. Head teachers willingly admit that they have much to learn from business. Could it be that the business world might just have some small morsel of wisdom to learn from education? Nobody has a monopoly on the "real world".

CHARLES SISUM

● The author is head teacher of Wisewood Secondary School, Sheffield, and is on secondment with Royal Mail North East.

Dreaming of a career

It is dangerous to foster the illusion of full-time employment, says Susan Elkin

Surely it is about time we stopped preparing our school leavers for a world which no longer exists? A host of Cabinet ministers gathered with John Major to launch the latest Competitiveness White Paper last month, yet its prescription for a modern workforce seemed out-dated. Ministers remain too concerned about whether the careers service is run by the private or public sector, instead of addressing the reality that awaits teenagers embarking on the job hunt.

"Careers" is specified in the national curriculum as a theme that should cut across lessons. Teachers, advisers, business partnerships and others strive conscientiously to deliver it — and yet, in all honesty, the concept of "careers" is history.

At least three million Britons are unemployed. The figure quoted for Europe is 19 million, which is probably a conservative estimate. Consider three factors. First, modern technology means that fewer workers are needed. Second, the potential workforce is hugely enlarged because women have joined it. Third, the market for European exports has shrunk in response to economic growth elsewhere in the world.

No one can assume, as previous generations did, the right to choose an area which appeals, start work at 16, 18, or 21, and remain indefinitely with one employer or make "career moves". This still happens for some, but for many it is a pipe dream. Yet we continue to foster this illusion. It is dangerous, because it teaches young people to define themselves largely in terms of their future gainful employment — or lack of it. When there is none, self-esteem plummets and they feel betrayed by the adult world.

To carry on raising clearly unfulfillable expectations in the



Ministers support John Major in the Competitiveness White Paper, but are they addressing reality?

young is to court disaster. Anxiety and frustration are built into an early age. Witness the recent survey which found that children as young as 12 cite not finding a job as their biggest worry. Yet failure to help young people to prepare realistically for the future is, I am convinced, a cause of vandalism, street violence and other antisocial behaviour.

We need to look broadly at alternative ways of living a purposeful life. For a start, let's dispose of the misnomer "careers" education. "Pursuits" or "lifestyles" would be less hypocritical. A wider brief would provide scope to look at charity work and constructive leisure activities. Helping in a children's home, reading to patients in a hospital, clearing footpaths, for example. And we must discuss these alternatives in a cheerful way in schools and with parents.

The excellent Community Programme was adept at organising the "unwaged" into beneficial work, and it is a mystery why it was allowed to wither away. I would like to see it revived. Young people could then be steered towards it by schools and "careers" advisers, perhaps with small financial inducements. But it is no good

indoctrinating young people with our own outmoded prejudices that any of this is second-best. It has to be promoted as A Good Thing for itself — as clearly it is.

Then there is sport. Perhaps one reason why sport should be more widely encouraged in schools is so that people are better equipped to practise it in their increased leisure time as adults.

Attitudes are hard to change, but it is essential that we start realistically exploring with schoolchildren some of these acceptable ways of living life in a constructive way, even for the "economically inactive" who are obliged to depend for money on a partner, parent or a government allowance.

Schools should also be sowing the seed of the idea that there is little permanence in modern life. There may be full-time work, but it will probably be intermittent — and strategies are needed for living through the gaps between jobs in a useful way. Having full-time paid employment is not an indication of whether or not you are a complete person and there are other ways of succeeding.

Young people should, moreover,

be made aware of Charles Handy's concept of the "portfolio person", who has a cluster of small jobs rather than one main one. For, say, an 18-year-old that might mean an afternoon paper round on weekdays, a Saturday shop job, two evenings per week bar work and mowing lawns on Sunday. Such enterprise could yield a modest income and still leave space for other activities.

It is all a matter of thinking in a multi-dimensional, problem-solving way and we owe it to the young to make them aware of the multi-farious possibilities and give them a bit of "education for self-reliance". But first we have to escape from the straitjacket imposed by the notion of "career", for we do young people a grave disservice in conditioning them to believe that gainful employment is the be-all and end-all of life.

We must abandon the present political and educational hypocrisy and linear thinking which bedevils "careers" education. Whether the careers service rests in public or commercial hands is merely an ideological nicety — and worrying about it clouds the key issue. It is the reality of careers education which matters.

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
BANKS				
Barclays Bank	112.50	+0.25	+0.2%	12.5
Bank of Scotland	105.00	+0.50	+0.5%	11.0
Bank of Ireland	100.00	+0.25	+0.2%	10.5
Bank of Wales	95.00	+0.25	+0.2%	10.0
Bank of England	90.00	+0.25	+0.2%	9.5
Bank of Cyprus	85.00	+0.25	+0.2%	9.0
Bank of Greece	80.00	+0.25	+0.2%	8.5
Bank of Spain	75.00	+0.25	+0.2%	8.0
Bank of Portugal	70.00	+0.25	+0.2%	7.5
Bank of France	65.00	+0.25	+0.2%	7.0
Bank of Italy	60.00	+0.25	+0.2%	6.5
Bank of Germany	55.00	+0.25	+0.2%	6.0
Bank of Netherlands	50.00	+0.25	+0.2%	5.5
Bank of Belgium	45.00	+0.25	+0.2%	5.0
Bank of Luxembourg	40.00	+0.25	+0.2%	4.5
Bank of Austria	35.00	+0.25	+0.2%	4.0
Bank of Switzerland	30.00	+0.25	+0.2%	3.5
Bank of Sweden	25.00	+0.25	+0.2%	3.0
Bank of Norway	20.00	+0.25	+0.2%	2.5
Bank of Denmark	15.00	+0.25	+0.2%	2.0
Bank of Finland	10.00	+0.25	+0.2%	1.5
Bank of Iceland	5.00	+0.25	+0.2%	1.0
Bank of Ireland	4.00	+0.25	+0.2%	0.5
Bank of Cyprus	3.00	+0.25	+0.2%	0.0
Bank of Greece	2.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-0.5
Bank of Spain	1.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-1.0
Bank of Portugal	0.50	+0.25	+0.2%	-1.5
Bank of France	0.25	+0.25	+0.2%	-2.0
Bank of Italy	0.10	+0.25	+0.2%	-2.5
Bank of Germany	0.05	+0.25	+0.2%	-3.0
Bank of Netherlands	0.02	+0.25	+0.2%	-3.5
Bank of Belgium	0.01	+0.25	+0.2%	-4.0
Bank of Luxembourg	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-4.5
Bank of Austria	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-5.0
Bank of Switzerland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-5.5
Bank of Sweden	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-6.0
Bank of Norway	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-6.5
Bank of Denmark	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-7.0
Bank of Finland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-7.5
Bank of Iceland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-8.0
Bank of Ireland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-8.5
Bank of Cyprus	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-9.0
Bank of Greece	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-9.5
Bank of Spain	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-10.0
Bank of Portugal	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-10.5
Bank of France	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-11.0
Bank of Italy	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-11.5
Bank of Germany	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-12.0
Bank of Netherlands	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-12.5
Bank of Belgium	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-13.0
Bank of Luxembourg	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-13.5
Bank of Austria	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-14.0
Bank of Switzerland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-14.5
Bank of Sweden	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-15.0
Bank of Norway	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-15.5
Bank of Denmark	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-16.0
Bank of Finland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-16.5
Bank of Iceland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-17.0
Bank of Ireland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-17.5
Bank of Cyprus	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-18.0
Bank of Greece	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-18.5
Bank of Spain	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-19.0
Bank of Portugal	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-19.5
Bank of France	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-20.0
Bank of Italy	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-20.5
Bank of Germany	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-21.0
Bank of Netherlands	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-21.5
Bank of Belgium	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-22.0
Bank of Luxembourg	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-22.5
Bank of Austria	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-23.0
Bank of Switzerland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-23.5
Bank of Sweden	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-24.0
Bank of Norway	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-24.5
Bank of Denmark	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-25.0
Bank of Finland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-25.5
Bank of Iceland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-26.0
Bank of Ireland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-26.5
Bank of Cyprus	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-27.0
Bank of Greece	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-27.5
Bank of Spain	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-28.0
Bank of Portugal	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-28.5
Bank of France	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-29.0
Bank of Italy	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-29.5
Bank of Germany	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-30.0
Bank of Netherlands	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-30.5
Bank of Belgium	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-31.0
Bank of Luxembourg	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-31.5
Bank of Austria	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-32.0
Bank of Switzerland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-32.5
Bank of Sweden	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-33.0
Bank of Norway	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-33.5
Bank of Denmark	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-34.0
Bank of Finland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-34.5
Bank of Iceland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-35.0
Bank of Ireland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-35.5
Bank of Cyprus	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-36.0
Bank of Greece	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-36.5
Bank of Spain	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-37.0
Bank of Portugal	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-37.5
Bank of France	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-38.0
Bank of Italy	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-38.5
Bank of Germany	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-39.0
Bank of Netherlands	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-39.5
Bank of Belgium	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-40.0
Bank of Luxembourg	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-40.5
Bank of Austria	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-41.0
Bank of Switzerland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-41.5
Bank of Sweden	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-42.0
Bank of Norway	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-42.5
Bank of Denmark	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-43.0
Bank of Finland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-43.5
Bank of Iceland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-44.0
Bank of Ireland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-44.5
Bank of Cyprus	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-45.0
Bank of Greece	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-45.5
Bank of Spain	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-46.0
Bank of Portugal	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-46.5
Bank of France	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-47.0
Bank of Italy	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-47.5
Bank of Germany	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-48.0
Bank of Netherlands	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-48.5
Bank of Belgium	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-49.0
Bank of Luxembourg	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-49.5
Bank of Austria	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-50.0
Bank of Switzerland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-50.5
Bank of Sweden	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-51.0
Bank of Norway	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-51.5
Bank of Denmark	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-52.0
Bank of Finland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-52.5
Bank of Iceland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-53.0
Bank of Ireland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-53.5
Bank of Cyprus	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-54.0
Bank of Greece	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-54.5
Bank of Spain	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-55.0
Bank of Portugal	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-55.5
Bank of France	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-56.0
Bank of Italy	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-56.5
Bank of Germany	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-57.0
Bank of Netherlands	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-57.5
Bank of Belgium	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-58.0
Bank of Luxembourg	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-58.5
Bank of Austria	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-59.0
Bank of Switzerland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-59.5
Bank of Sweden	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-60.0
Bank of Norway	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-60.5
Bank of Denmark	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-61.0
Bank of Finland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-61.5
Bank of Iceland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-62.0
Bank of Ireland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-62.5
Bank of Cyprus	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-63.0
Bank of Greece	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-63.5
Bank of Spain	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-64.0
Bank of Portugal	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-64.5
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Bank of Italy	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-65.5
Bank of Germany	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-66.0
Bank of Netherlands	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-66.5
Bank of Belgium	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-67.0
Bank of Luxembourg	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-67.5
Bank of Austria	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-68.0
Bank of Switzerland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-68.5
Bank of Sweden	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-69.0
Bank of Norway	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-69.5
Bank of Denmark	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-70.0
Bank of Finland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-70.5
Bank of Iceland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-71.0
Bank of Ireland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-71.5
Bank of Cyprus	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-72.0
Bank of Greece	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-72.5
Bank of Spain	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-73.0
Bank of Portugal	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-73.5
Bank of France	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-74.0
Bank of Italy	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-74.5
Bank of Germany	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-75.0
Bank of Netherlands	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-75.5
Bank of Belgium	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-76.0
Bank of Luxembourg	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-76.5
Bank of Austria	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-77.0
Bank of Switzerland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-77.5
Bank of Sweden	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-78.0
Bank of Norway	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-78.5
Bank of Denmark	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-79.0
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Bank of Ireland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-80.5
Bank of Cyprus	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-81.0
Bank of Greece	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-81.5
Bank of Spain	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-82.0
Bank of Portugal	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-82.5
Bank of France	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-83.0
Bank of Italy	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-83.5
Bank of Germany	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-84.0
Bank of Netherlands	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-84.5
Bank of Belgium	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-85.0
Bank of Luxembourg	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-85.5
Bank of Austria	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-86.0
Bank of Switzerland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-86.5
Bank of Sweden	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-87.0
Bank of Norway	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-87.5
Bank of Denmark	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-88.0
Bank of Finland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-88.5
Bank of Iceland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-89.0
Bank of Ireland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-89.5
Bank of Cyprus	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-90.0
Bank of Greece	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-90.5
Bank of Spain	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-91.0
Bank of Portugal	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-91.5
Bank of France	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-92.0
Bank of Italy	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-92.5
Bank of Germany	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-93.0
Bank of Netherlands	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-93.5
Bank of Belgium	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-94.0
Bank of Luxembourg	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-94.5
Bank of Austria	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-95.0
Bank of Switzerland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-95.5
Bank of Sweden	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-96.0
Bank of Norway	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-96.5
Bank of Denmark	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-97.0
Bank of Finland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-97.5
Bank of Iceland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-98.0
Bank of Ireland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-98.5
Bank of Cyprus	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-99.0
Bank of Greece	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-99.5
Bank of Spain	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-100.0
Bank of Portugal	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-100.5
Bank of France	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-101.0
Bank of Italy	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-101.5
Bank of Germany	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-102.0
Bank of Netherlands	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-102.5
Bank of Belgium	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-103.0
Bank of Luxembourg	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-103.5
Bank of Austria	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-104.0
Bank of Switzerland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-104.5
Bank of Sweden	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-105.0
Bank of Norway	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-105.5
Bank of Denmark	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-106.0
Bank of Finland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-106.5
Bank of Iceland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-107.0
Bank of Ireland	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-107.5
Bank of Cyprus	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-108.0
Bank of Greece	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-108.5
Bank of Spain	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-109.0
Bank of Portugal	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-109.5
Bank of France	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-110.0
Bank of Italy	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-110.5
Bank of Germany	0.00	+0.25	+0.2%	-111.0

Clarke may be vindicated

JANET BUSH

million). Forecasts range from £94 million to £96 million. A dividend of 13.5p (11.4p) is likely.

NORTHUMBRIAN WATER
Bid speculation will surround Northumbrian Water when it announces full-year results on Thursday. Lyonnaise Générale des Eaux of France wants to

5 1995

VODAFONE: Attention at tomorrow's results from Britain's

NatWest Securities. Market forecasts range from £140 million to £155 million. Full integration

City will also be hoping for national money from Sir Ernest Harrison, chairman of the

FRIDAY
Finals: Brazilian Smelter Companies, Dunedin Enterprise Investment Trust, Osborne & Little, Park Food, Riverview Rubber, Somic, St James's Place Capital. **Economic indicators:** Balance of trade (March), construction output (Q1).

The Sunday Times: Buy Pilkington, Amersham. Sell Vodafone. **The Sunday Telegraph:** Buy Ilexco, Chemring, Capitol Group. Sell Euro Disney. **The Observer:** Buy Pilkington, Osborne & Little, Capitol. Hold Meyer International. Sell London International Group, De La Rue. **The Mail on Sunday:** Buy Worthington Group. Sell Ransomes. **Independent on Sunday:** Buy Evans Halshaw, Darnley. Sell Amersham.

Court of Appeal

Notice added to extension of employment contract

rule 10; and
 rule 10) allowing an appeal by the
 plaintiff Martin Lovell from Miss
 Recorder Corfield, at Peter-
 borough County Court, who had
 directed that his action against the
 defendant, Raymond Porter, be
 struck out under Order 9, rule 10.
 In each case the plaintiff had
 begun an action in the county court
 by default summons claiming
 damages for personal injuries and
 had reached agreement with the
 defendant to extend time generally
 for service of the defence. In *Pickles*
 v. *Holtmeyer* the agreement also

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS, giving the judgment of the court, said that Order 3, rule 2 of the County Court Rules provided that, except as otherwise provided by the rules, every action other than a fixed date action, defined as one in which a claim was made for relief other than the payment of money, was to be a default action.

In any ordinary personal injury action the only claim which the plaintiff made was for the payment of money. It followed that personal injury claims begun in the county court were ordinarily default actions.

Under § 4, rule 10 would apply to those extended classes. It was not known whether or not he did, nor if the extended application of the rule was appreciated by practitioners.

The problem might only have become acute with the great increase recently made in the jurisdiction of the county court in personal injury cases.

It was in those more substantial claims that the practice of deferring litigious procedures and final settlement until a plaintiff's medical condition clarified or stabilized had, in the past, been regularly followed. The court knew of noth-

The court rejected the submission that the parties had not in terms agreed that the action should not be struck out after 12 months under the rule. When a plaintiff agreed to extend a defendant's time for serving a defence, whether indefinitely, or indefinitely subject to notice, or for a definite period, he was in effect agreeing not to enter judgment in

Warrin v British Steel plc [1994] 1 WLR 732.

Order 9, rule 10 did not, however, like Order 17, rule 1(1), form part of a coherent code; its meaning and intention were not as plain; and it seemed unlikely that it was devised as part of any scheme to give the court control of the progress of litigation.

The practice of delaying litigious procedures and final settlement at a plaintiff's medical condition is not clarified or stabilised, while it is desirable, cost-effective and beneficial to the plaintiff in many cases is of course open to abuse.

THIRD JUSTICE HUTCHISON
that in March 1992 it was
that the employee would
be up in employment for two
is up to March 31, 1994 under
terms of his existing contract
which provided for two years
or payment in lieu. The
employment was accordingly
contracted to be subject to the terms of
contract of employment.

The termination of the contract was lawful and that by it the employer was electing, as it was held to do, between the options of either paying money to serve or pay money in lieu.

Accordingly, the employee became entitled to receive the stipulated payment in lieu of notice. The payment was a contractual one not liquidated damages, and not subject to the duty to mitigate. Furthermore, even if the sum in lieu was liquidated damages, there was still no duty to mitigate.

That the employee acted in his own behalf Lordships

To os

was the submission on behalf of the employee and his firm found that it was correct. The court found that the employee was in breach of his duty to the employer and was liable for damages.

**Regina v Wandsworth
London Borough Council.
Ex parte Beckwith (No 2)**

When deciding to close a residential home in its area, a local authority ~~must~~ take account not only of the wishes of those directly affected but also of its residents at other homes in the area.

Mr Justice Patten so held in the Queen's Bench Division on May 24 when allowing an application by Mr ~~Walter~~ Beckwith for judicial review and granting a declaration ~~that~~ the decision of the social services committee of the London Borough of Wandsworth on May 2 to close George Potter

House, the residential home in which he lived, and the ratification of that decision by the full council on May 10, had been taken without consulting interested parties.

The committee had met again in the light of the decision of Mr Justice Phipps in the same case on April 11 (*The Times* May 5).

MR JUSTICE PHIPPS, having considered *R v Devon County Council, Ex parte Baker* [1995] 1 All ER 73, said that a proper consultation would have involved not only those affected directly but also those living at the local authority's other residential homes.

Sutcliffe v Chief Constable of West Yorkshire
The police when acting as bailees were not to be held liable for damage caused by vandals to a motor vehicle held by them in a secure yard under Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 powers.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Waite and Lord Justice Otton) so held on May 19 when allowing an appeal by the Chief Constable of West Yorkshire from Judge Walker in Halifax County Court who in May 1994 had held him liable for damage caused by an arson attack on a Ford motor car belonging to the plaintiff, Richard Andrew Sutcliffe.

LORD JUSTICE OTTON said that the vehicle, lacking vital

mechanical parts and having a window missing, was in an enclosed yard, overlooked by the police station, which was well lit and constantly attended by officers.

The gates were kept open but the system of security was such as to make it almost impossible for anyone to enter without being seen.

Unknown vandals had shown ingenuity in carrying out a planned, audacious attack on a particular vehicle of no great market value.

The chief constable had discharged the burden on him of proving that as bailee he had taken reasonable care of the vehicle in the particular circumstances of the case and was not in breach of the duty owed to its owner.

damages was should be paid if he broke his contract to seek to diminish the agreed sum by argument as to mitigation would be contrary to the whole principle underlying the concept of liquidated damages.

The concept of a duty to mitigate was *entirely foreign* to a liquidated damages claim, the whole object of which was to fix a certain sum to be paid irrespective of the actual damage suffered by reason of the breach.

It seemed to his Lordship that, as a matter of principle, where there was a liquidated damage clause which was valid, that is, could not be impugned as a penalty, there was no room for arguments on mitigation of damages.

Lord Justice Aldous agreed.

Solicitors: Simmons & Simmons; Hamlin Stowe.

Over the next few weeks, the Chancellor will be bombarded with calls to aid the housing market in his November Budget. The simplest would be to reverse previous measures. Restoring mortgage interest relief would surely be an expensive waste of taxpayers' money. After the fall in interest rates, that is not the main problem. Confidence has been damaged more by the impending cut in social security support for those who have lost their income, discriminating against owner-occupiers. But much of the damage has been done, reminding people of the risks of buying a home when house prices are static and employment chancy.

One academic's speculative but much-hyped projection of a long downturn in prices has stuck in people's minds. A more practical, if costly, policy would therefore be to allow generous tax reliefs to help people adjust to such new realities.

A single regime could cover those saving to buy their first home and those trying to climb out of the trap of negative equity. In a sense, they are in the same boat. Negative equity stems mainly from people borrowing too much of the value of a house. Those who have income need to cut their mortgage. In a more cautious market, first-time buyers need to save for a bigger down payment. A limited savings vehicle with the tax benefits of a pension scheme could bridge the gap.

The lessons of the housing debacle run much wider. They have evident-

Taxpayers bear burden of free-market excesses



GRAHAM SEARGEANT

ly yet to be learnt. In essence, they stem from a political philosophy that does not work: the notion that policies should be determined solely by economic efficiency, but that a kindly State can succour individuals who are too badly hurt.

This combination sounds reasonable, satisfying both free marketers and single-nation welfare. Experience suggests, however, that it tends to ratchet up public spending and taxation. Economic cycles apart, it explains why a government that has worked so hard over 16 years to reduce the role of the State has still failed to cut the proportion of national income taken in taxation or public borrowing.

In housing, this has worked in complex ways. The boom was fed by deregulation aimed at boosting competition among lenders. But it was not only lenders and borrowers who relied on house price inflation. So did the State. At the same time, measures were being taken to cut hundreds of thousands of steady utility jobs, to allow less job security and to promote labour mobility, not least via the right to buy. These different elements have reacted together to make more people need

state support and to increase the demand for renewed, or higher, state aid for social housing.

This is not the first time that housing reforms have unexpectedly boosted public spending. When the Government loosened rent controls, to stimulate a private alternative to council housing, it had to promise support for those who could not afford to pay. The private rental sector has hardly boomed: the cost to taxpayers certainly has.

Abolition of wages councils, combined with tax incentives to employers to create low-paid, part-time jobs, has had similarly mixed effects on public spending, though the

balance is harder to judge. These arguments are being replayed over Labour's plan for a minimum wage. Would the effect on unemployment, which looms so large in increased public spending, outweigh savings in state support to low-paid people who are now worse off? The CBI rejects a national minimum wage, arguing instead that it would be better to give direct subsidies to employers or to extend to work social security benefits. That sounds rather ominous for taxpayers.

Clearly, many measures to cut public spending have worked. Privatisation has usually been good for taxpayers, as well as the industries concerned. In water, the State shifted the huge burden of investment to customers and private finance. Higher social security support for poor people hit by price rises absorbs only a small proportion of the gains. Other utilities' prices have generally fallen in real terms. That cuts retail price inflation and, therefore, cuts the cost of state pensions and indexed social benefits.

Even privatisation can boost tax and public borrowing, however, if the implications are not thought through properly. Reform of rail is

structured round a theoretical model that aims to unpick the functions of the network, maximise competition and minimise cross-subsidies — the preferred new model for all utilities. Yet cross-subsidies offer a fairly painless way for affluent consumers to help poorer ones without recourse to taxation. Eliminate these cosy monopoly elements and public spending bears the strain. In rail, direct subsidies from taxpayers will initially rise as a result of privatisation.

Even an American approach to taxation can backfire in this way. VAT on domestic fuel gave the most notorious example. To raise £3 billion, the State had to spend an extra £1 billion or so to aid hard-hit pensioners. Since 1979, there has been a sharp and deliberate shift from taxes on income to taxes on spending. The theoretical case is strong, but neglects the impact on indexed social security payments.

That shift alone has added roughly one percentage point to the proportion of national income taken in taxes and public borrowing. To America's radical Republicans, there is no conflict in de-regulation, axing cross-subsidies, aiming for perfect competition and cutting direct taxes. They want to sweep away welfare, too. Translated to Europe, where the majority of voters demand that a welfare state be retained, dogmatic free-market policies are often funded by the very taxpayers they aim to serve. Cutting taxes is a subtler and trickier art.

Curbs on Japanese cars are leaving the US isolated, says Ian Brodie

America drives over the limit

On a recent trip to Tokyo, I visited a showroom to ask about buying an American car. "Certainly," said the salesman, "may I see your parking permit?" That was the first surprise. Before considering any model, a customer needs a certificate from the police to show he has enough space to park. A mid-size American car needs two spaces. And would I mind, the salesman asked, if the steering wheel was on the wrong side because few American cars arrived in Japan equipped for driving on the left?

Within minutes, it became clearer why the Japanese insist that the US inability to crack their car market is as much Detroit's failure to consider the needs of Japan's motorists as the result of a protectionist plot.

Now this festering sore in Japanese-American relations has broken open again and is threatening to flare into a trade war so serious that it could even raise doubts about the strength and durability of the two nations' mutual security treaty that has lain at the heart of their Pax Pacific for 35 years. As recriminations intensify, the US is becoming increasingly isolated. Its actions smack of hypocrisy and could suffocate the fledgling World Trade Organisation.

At issue is President Clinton's decision to impose 100 per cent tariffs that would double the cost in the US of nearly \$6 billion worth of Japanese luxury cars. The penalty will reduce sales of the 13 targeted models from 215,000 last year to zero, unless a compromise can be reached before Mr Clinton's deadline of June 28. He and Tomichi Murayama, the Japanese Prime Minister, will meet on June 15 before the G7 economic summit in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The following day, their negotiators are expected to resume discussions in Geneva.

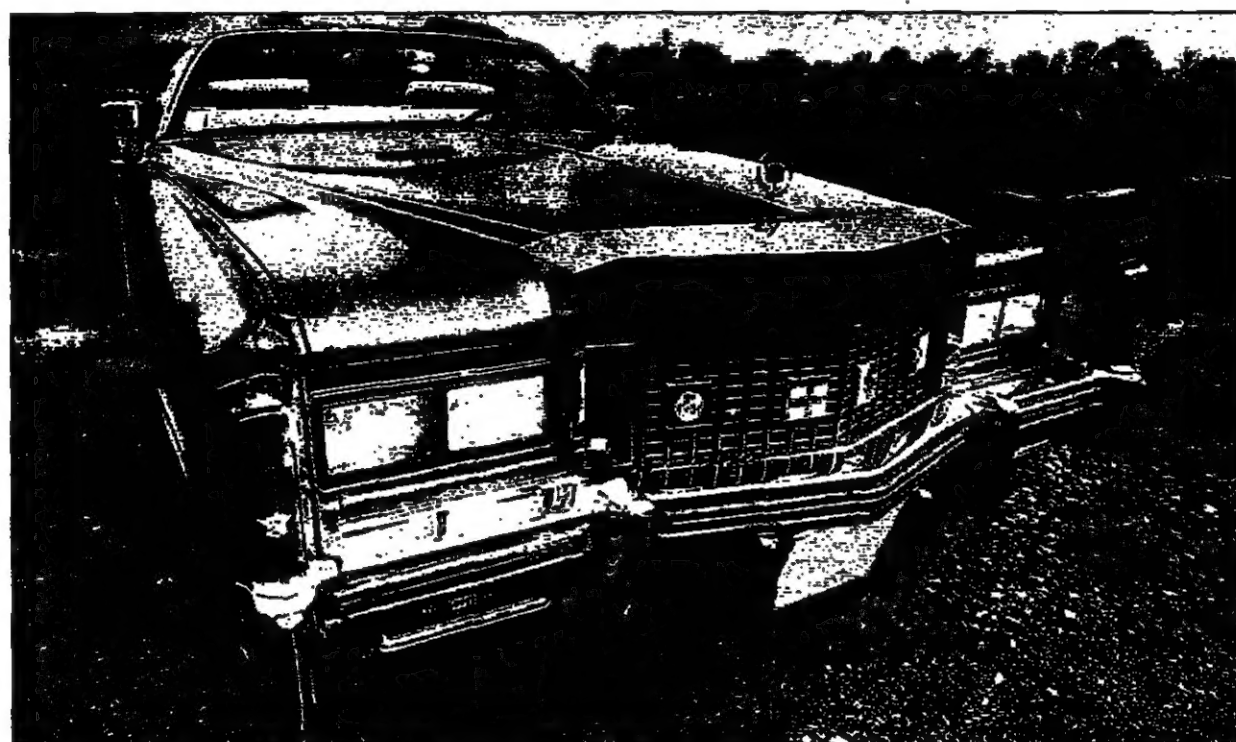
The Americans have made three demands. One, they seek access to "high quality" car dealers in Japan. The Japanese say the Americans have failed to invest in dealerships. Two, the US wants Japanese manufacturers to buy more parts for new cars from American suppliers. In Japan, parts are traditionally made by companies with interlocking links to the car firms under the old boy network known as *keiretsu*.

Three, the Americans ask why their cheaper replacement parts are seldom used when Japanese cars need repairs to meet stringent government inspections. Again, the garages have close ties to the manufacturers.

Mickey Kantor, the aggressive Los Angeles lawyer who is Mr Clinton's Trade Representative, says: "It's not a level playing field." He claims the argument is about jobs and the 2.5 million Americans directly employed in the motor industry. Translation: Mr Clinton is trying to shore up his blue-collar base in the mid-west states that will be crucial to his re-election hopes.

Mr Kantor fulminates in favour of free trade, but keeps very quiet about America's own restrictive practices. If lifted, they could contribute mightily towards easing the \$60 billion trade imbalance with Japan. For example, the Japanese cannot buy unprocessed logs from trees felled in forests on federal land in the US Pacific North-west. Nor can they cut through regulations that bar them from importing Alaskan oil and gas. Nor can they bid on contracts to ship Alaskan oil to US ports.

All these barriers have been raised to protect US special interests whose tentacles have proved at least as unyielding



Big may be beautiful in the US but it does not sell well in Japan, where demand is overwhelmingly for small cars

as those of the *keiretsu*. Steve Hanke, an economics professor at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore who served on Ronald Reagan's council of economic advisers, says the US has been steadily closing its markets to Japan since the early 1980s. Now, he says, the Clinton Administration has over-reached in an absurd case and shot itself in the foot.

Messrs Clinton and Kantor appear to have forgotten all

the sanctions from the WTO. Mr Clinton has left himself only unpalatable options. If he loses at the WTO and then defies the organisation he will effectively kill it at birth. Yet if he complies with a WTO ruling that goes against him, he could lose the car workers whose loyalty he is trying to secure and leave himself open to attack by Republican protectionists who are already agitating about America's loss of economic sovereignty to a supranational body.

Washington's hopes for a resolution of the stand-off depend on a replay of previous trading deadlocks. The Japanese have always caved in during the final reel. This time, though, Tokyo's lead negotiator is the intractable Trade Minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto. He is convinced that his ambition to become prime minister will be enhanced by refusing to crack. He has many allies at home and abroad. "The Europeans have condemned the American sanctions. So have Japan's Asian neighbours, who fear that they would be the next targets forced to set aside a certain portion of their markets for American goods."

In Washington, serious voices have been raised against the proposed measures. Carla Hills, Mr Kantor's predecessor as Trade Representative, says the Americans have a good case, but have made themselves outlaws by acting unilaterally. Senator Bill Bradley, who is sometimes mentioned as a potential challenger to Mr Clinton for the Democratic party's presidential nomination, believes that long-term damage has already been inflicted on relations with the Japanese. Even if they back down, he says, their attitude could stifle on management of exchange rates and as a lender of last resort, as well as towards co-operation on Russia, China and North Korea.

The Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association is running a spirited campaign to try to save its 900 luxury car dealerships in the US by laying the blame on Ford, General Motors and Chrysler. In newspaper advertisements, the association asserts that Detroit's Big Three simply do not offer any small and midsize cars that make up 80 per cent of the Japanese market.

I am reminded of the Tokyo car salesman. As he surveyed his inventory of large, left-hand drive American vehicles, he sighed and said: "Business would be a lot better if only American car makers would design a small car for the Japanese housewife."

CARS ON THE SANCTIONS LIST

All models of Toyota's Lexus division; Nissan's Infiniti Q45, Infiniti J30 and Infiniti IS300; Honda's Acura Legend and Acura 3.2 TL; Mazda's 929 and Millennia; and Mitsubishi's Diamante

about the World Trade Organisation that they fought so hard to establish as a successor to GATT. Formed only five months ago, the WTO is supposed to be the arbiter of global trade disputes. America's unilateral imposition of punitive tariffs on Japan's luxury cars was a breach of WTO regulations. There is not an independent trade lawyer to be found who thinks the US can now win belated support for

Britain in 200 episodes

This Seep'd Isle. Radio 4 LW, 10.15am.

From now until July next year, in 200 episodes covering 50 hours of broadcasting, Britain's rich and varied past, from the arrival of Julius Caesar until the 20th century, will be laid out in seven blocks of programmes. Each will feature Anna Massey as storyteller and Paul Eddington reading extracts from Churchill's *History of the English-Speaking Peoples*. And there will be lots of extracts, too, from historians and contemporary chroniclers. Much fascinating detail is going to emerge. Caesar's journal here noting that ancient Britons would not eat hare, fowl or goose and that "of all the people much the most civilised are those who live in Kent". Christopher Lee, former BBC defence correspondent, has written the whole thing and it goes out to coincide with school terms.

The Monday Play: Battle for the Dome. Radio 4, 7.45pm.

Brumelleschi built the great dome for Florence Cathedral in the 15th century, but not before some violent in-fighting involving his great rival Ghiberti. Jean Béraud's imaginative play is about the competition to design the dome and succeeds in rolling back the centuries to recapture in music and language the fierce struggles that took place. Politicians with no idea of architecture fought tooth and nail for their candidates — the sort of situation that is not unfamiliar in the world today. The cast includes Robert Glenister, Peter Jeffrey and Bryan Pringle. Kenneth Gossing

RADIO 1

FM Stereo, 9.00am Dave Pearce 9.30 Chris Evans 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa Farnon 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 7.00 Evening Session 8.00 Collins and Macer's 10.00 Radio 1 with Pete Tong and Boy George 10.00 Mark Radcliffe 10.00 Wendy Lloyd

RADIO 2

FM Stereo, 9.00am Martin Kellner 7.30 Sarah Kennedy 9.30 Ken Bruce, including at 10.00 Pick of the Hits 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Chris Stuart 3.30 Ed Stewart 6.00 John Dunn 7.00 Hubert Gregg says Thanks for the Memory 7.30 Alan Dal with Diana Sand Dany, and at 8.00 Big Band Era 8.30 Big Band Special 8.50 Humphrey Lyttelton with the Best of Jazz on record 10.00 Star Equality 10.30 The Jazzmen 12.00am Digby Fairweather with Jazz Notes 1.00 Steve Medden 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

9.00am Morning Reports 9.00 The Breakfast Programme, incl at 7.15 What About Us? 8.35 The Magazine, incl Euronews 11.15 Going Bananas 11.55 Pocus 5 to 12 12.00 Midday with Kate, incl at 12.30pm Moneytalk 2.05 Race on Five, incl Actuality, and at 2.35 Living On Crime 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide, including at 4.15 Heroes and Villains; Dick Turpin 6.00 News Edin 7.35 Fantasy Rugby 8.05 Inside Edge 9.35 Laying Down the Law: Finding the Key 10.05 News Talk 10.35 Laying Down the Law: The Crime Hour 11.00 Night News 12.00am The Other Side of Midnight 2.05 Up All Night

TALK RADIO

9.00am Sean Bolger 10.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna Reardon 3.00 Tommy Boyd 7.00 Mexico One and Carol MacGillivray 10.00 Censor 1.00am Ian Collins

RADIO 3

6.55am Open University: Lord Bridge on Victorian Culture and Society 6.55 Weather 7.00 On Air: Mozart (Soprano in E flat); Franck, an Gern (Piano); Liszt; 8.05 Handel: Handelian: Handel (Two Sonatas in E, Op 5 No 6); 8.55 Tchaikovsky (My protector, my angel, my friend: None but the lonely heart); Vivaldi (Violin Concerto, RVG); 9.00 Fairlie: Live from the West — Henry and William Lewis 9.45 Musical Encounters: Artist of the Week: Clara Haskil, piano; Beethoven (Violin Sonata in A, Op 50 No 1); 10.05 Brahms (Two Masses); Vivaldi (Concerto in D, La pastorale); Mozart (Piano Variations on a Theme of Dupont); Tobias Picker (The Encantadas); 11.15 Maria (The Ball of St Genevieve); Schumann (Piano Concerto in A minor) 12.00 Gallery to Genoa: Roy Strong presents the second of a new production of light opera 1.00 BBC Lunchtime Concert, live from St John's, Smith Square, London. Gustav Tschann, piano; performs Haydn (Piano Trio in G, Gypsy Rondo); Dvorak (Piano Trio in E minor, Dumky) 2.00 Schock: Lifeskills 2.15 Storybook 2.25 Let's Move 2.45 First Steps in Drama 3.00 The BBC Orchestra: BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Tadeusz Dabrowski performs Wagner (Siegfried, Venusberg music; Tannhäuser); Duparc (L'Éternel)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News, incl 6.03 Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 8.55, 9.25 Weather 9.25, 9.55 Sports News 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.45 Characteristics: In the last of the series, Dame Barbara Castle nonchalantly answers seven 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week, presented by Mervyn Bragg and Times columnist Brenda Maddox, with Margaret Drabble, David Edgar, Bryan Appleyard, Christopher Lee 10.00-10.30 News: With Great Pleasure (Full only): Tracy Edwards, captain of the Maiden in the Whitbread round-the-world yacht race, introduces prose, poetry and fiction which has inspired and animated her 10.30 Daily Service (LW only) 10.15 This Seep'd Isle (LW only): See Choice 10.30 Women's Hour: Janet Murray meets the American writer and poet Margaret Piercy 11.30 Money Box Live: 0171-680 4444, Live open from 10am 12.00 News, and Yours 12.25pm Brain of Britain 1995: First Round — The Home Counties 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One 1.40 The Archers (1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News: Cathal of the Woods, by Lindsay Carter's tale of a monk's magical voyage of discovery, with Gerard Green and James Toller 3.00 The Afternoon Shift 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Natalie Whelan celebrates the

RADIO 5

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News, incl 6.03 Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 8.55, 9.25 Weather 9.25, 9.55 Sports News 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.45 Characteristics: In the last of the series, Dame Barbara Castle nonchalantly answers seven 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week, presented by Mervyn Bragg and Times columnist Brenda Maddox, with Margaret Drabble, David Edgar, Bryan Appleyard, Christopher Lee 10.00-10.30 News: With Great Pleasure (Full only): Tracy Edwards, captain of the Maiden in the Whitbread round-the-world yacht race, introduces prose, poetry and fiction which has inspired and animated her 10.30 Daily Service (LW only) 10.15 This Seep'd Isle (LW only): See Choice 10.30 Women's Hour: Janet Murray meets the American writer and poet Margaret Piercy 11.30 Money Box Live: 0171-680 4444, Live open from 10am 12.00 News, and Yours 12.25pm Brain of Britain 1995: First Round — The Home Counties 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One 1.40 The Archers (1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News: Cathal of the Woods, by Lindsay Carter's tale of a monk's magical voyage of discovery, with Gerard Green and James Toller 3.00 The Afternoon Shift 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Natalie Whelan celebrates the

RADIO 6

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WORDWATCH

Answers from page 33

ACESCENT
(a) Turning sour: "It's rather a wonderful thing, dear heart, but as we grow old together it seems to me you are, if possible, even more acescent than ever."

KYSTER
(b) A surgeon's instrument for scraping bones. "Well, Mary Ann, if you are sure the doctors cannot find anything wrong with you, why not try a naturopath? And ask them to give you a good going over with a kyster? Does wonders for your circulation, I am told."

AEAEAE
(c) Magic as in *aeaeae* cries the magic arts, one of the few all-voiced six-letter words. *Aeaeae* was the surname of the legendary pig-brother Circe, and the name of her mythical island somewhere off the coast of Italy. Useful in Scrabble. You can always say, "Strictly speaking it may be foreign, but it is a word that every schoolgirl knows, isn't it?"

ONTOMANIA
(e) An irresistible urge to buy things, the curious modern phenomenon that makes millions think that fun is a weekend spent at Brent's Cross or Oxford Street. The condition is generally found in association with penny. Where it is not it goes well, especially as *ontomania*, like *thermosaesthetics*, often marry each other.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1 Qxg7+! Kxg7 2 Bf8+! Kxg7 3 Kf7 3 Bf8+! Kxg7 4 Bf8+! Kxg7 5 Kf7 6 Bf8+! Kxg7 7 Bf8+! Kxg7 8 Bf8+! Kxg7 9 Kf7 10 Bf8+! Kxg7 11 Bf8+! Kxg7 12 Bf8+! Kxg7 13 Kf7 14 Bf8+! Kxg7 15 Bf8+! Kxg7 16 Bf8+! Kxg7 17 Kf7 18 Bf8+! Kxg7 19 Bf8+! Kxg7 20 Bf8+! Kxg7 21 Kf7 22 Bf8+! Kxg7 23 Bf8+! Kxg7 24 Bf8+! Kxg7 25 Kf7 26 Bf8+! Kxg7 27 Bf8+! Kxg7 28 Bf8+! Kxg7 29 Kf7 30 Bf8+! Kxg7 31 Bf8+! Kxg7 32 Bf8+! Kxg7 33 Kf7 34 Bf8+! Kxg7 35 Bf8+! Kxg7 36 Bf8+! Kxg7 37 Kf7 38 Bf8+! Kxg7 39 Bf8+! Kxg7 40 Bf8+! Kxg7 41 Kf7 42 Bf8+! Kxg7 43 Bf8+! Kxg7 44 Bf8+! Kxg7 45 Kf7 46 Bf8+! Kxg7 47 Bf8+! Kxg7 48 Bf8+! Kxg7 49 Kf7 50 Bf8+! Kxg7 51 Bf8+! Kxg7 52 Bf8+! Kxg7 53 Kf7 54 Bf8+! Kxg7 55 Bf8+! Kxg7 56 Bf8+! Kxg7 57 Kf7 58 Bf8+! Kxg7 59 Bf8+! Kxg7 60 Bf8+! Kxg7 61 Kf7 62 Bf8+! Kxg7 63 Bf8+! Kxg7 64 Bf8+! Kxg7 65 Kf7 66 Bf8+! Kxg7 67 Bf8+! Kxg7 68 Bf8+! Kxg7 69 Kf7 70 Bf8+! Kxg7 71 Bf8+! Kxg7 72 Bf8+! Kxg7 73 Kf7 74 Bf8+! Kxg7 75 Bf8+! Kxg7 76 Bf8+! Kxg7 77 Kf7 78 Bf8+! Kxg7 79 Bf8+! Kxg7 80 Bf8+! Kxg7 81 Kf7 82 Bf8+! Kxg7 83 Bf8+! Kxg7 84 Bf8+! Kxg7 85 Kf7 86 Bf8+! Kxg7 87 Bf8+! Kxg7 88 Bf8+! Kxg7 89 Kf7 90 Bf8+! Kxg7 91 Bf8+! Kxg7 92 Bf8+! Kxg7 93 Kf7 94 Bf8+! Kxg7 95 Bf8+! Kxg7 96 Bf8+! Kxg7 97 Kf7 98 Bf8+! Kxg7 99 Bf8+! Kxg7 100 Bf8+! Kxg7 101 Kf7 102 Bf8+! Kxg7 103 Bf8+! Kxg7 104 Bf8+! Kxg7 105 Kf7 106 Bf8+! Kxg7 107 Bf8+! Kxg7 108 Bf8+! Kxg7 109 Kf7 110 Bf8+! Kxg7 111 Bf8+! Kxg7 112 Bf8+! Kxg7 113 Kf7 114 Bf8+! Kxg7 115 Bf8+! Kxg7 116 Bf8+! Kxg7 117 Kf7 118 Bf8+! Kxg7 119 Bf8+! Kxg7 120 Bf8+! Kxg7 121 Kf7 122 Bf8+! Kxg7 123 Bf8+! Kxg7 124 Bf8+! Kxg7 125 Kf7 126 Bf8+! Kxg7 127 Bf8+! Kxg7 128 Bf8+! Kxg7 129 Kf7 130 Bf8+! Kxg7 131 Bf8+! Kxg7 132 Bf8+! Kxg7 133 Kf7 134 Bf8+! Kxg7 135 Bf8+! Kxg7 136 Bf8+! Kxg7 137 Kf7 138 Bf8+! Kxg7 139 Bf8+! Kxg7 140 Bf8+! Kxg7 141 Kf7 142 Bf8+! Kxg7 143 Bf8+! Kxg7 144 Bf8+! Kxg7 145 Kf7 146 Bf8+! Kxg7 147 Bf8+! Kxg7 148 Bf8+! Kxg7 149 Kf7 150 Bf8+! Kxg7 151 Bf8+! Kxg7 152 Bf8+! Kxg7 153 Kf7 154 Bf8+! Kxg7 155 Bf8+! Kxg7 156 Bf8+! Kxg7 157 Kf7 158 Bf8+! Kxg7 159 Bf8+! Kxg7 160 Bf8+! Kxg7 161 Kf7 162 Bf8+! Kxg7 163 Bf8+! Kxg7 164 Bf8+! Kxg7 165 Kf7 166 Bf8+! Kxg7 167 Bf8+! Kxg7 168 Bf8+! Kxg7 169 Kf7 170 Bf8+! Kxg7 171 Bf8+! Kxg7 172 Bf8+! Kxg7 173 Kf7 174 Bf8+! Kxg7 175 Bf8+! Kxg7 176 Bf8+! Kxg7 177 Kf7 178 Bf8+! Kxg7 179 Bf8+! Kxg7 180 Bf8+! Kxg7 181 Kf7 182 Bf8+! Kxg7 183 Bf8+! Kxg7 184 Bf8+! Kxg7 185 Kf7 186 Bf8+! Kxg7 187 Bf8+! Kxg7 188 Bf8+! Kxg7 189 Kf7 190 Bf8+! Kxg7 191 Bf8+! Kxg7 192 Bf8+! Kxg7 193 Kf7 194 Bf8+! Kxg7 195 Bf8+! Kxg7 196 Bf8+! Kxg7 197 Kf7 198 Bf8+! Kxg7 199 Bf8+! Kxg7 200 Bf8+! Kxg7 201 Kf7 202 Bf8+! Kxg7 203 Bf8+! Kxg7 204 Bf8+! Kxg7 205 Kf7 206 Bf8+! Kxg7 207 Bf8+! Kxg7 208 Bf8+! Kxg7 209 Kf7 210 Bf8+! Kxg7 211 Bf8+! Kxg7 212 Bf8+! Kxg7 213 Kf7 214 Bf8+! Kxg7 215 Bf8+! Kxg7 216 Bf8+! Kxg7 217 Kf7 218 Bf8+! Kxg7 219 Bf8+! Kxg7 220 Bf8+! Kxg7 221 Kf7 222 Bf8+! Kxg7 223 Bf8+! Kxg7 224 Bf8+! Kxg7 225 Kf7 226 Bf8+! Kxg7 227 Bf8+! Kxg7 228 Bf8+! Kxg7 229 Kf7 230 Bf8+! Kxg7 231 Bf8+! Kxg7 232 Bf8+! Kxg7 233 Kf7 234 Bf8+! Kxg7 235 Bf8+! Kxg7 236 Bf8+! Kxg7 237 Kf7 238 Bf8+! Kxg7 239 Bf8+! Kxg7 240 Bf8+! Kxg7 241 Kf7 242 Bf8+! Kxg7 243 Bf8+! Kxg7 244 Bf8+! Kxg7 245 Kf7 246 Bf8+! Kxg7 247 Bf8+! Kxg7 248 Bf8+! Kxg7 249 Kf7 250 Bf8+! Kxg7 251 Bf8+! Kxg7 252 Bf8+! Kxg7 253 Kf7 254 Bf8+! Kxg7 255 Bf8+! Kxg7 256 Bf8+! Kxg7 257 Kf7 258 Bf8+! Kxg7 259 Bf8+! Kxg7 260 Bf8+! Kxg7 261 Kf7 262 Bf8+! Kxg7 263 Bf8+! Kxg7 264 Bf8+! Kxg7 265 Kf7 266 Bf8+! Kxg7 267 Bf8+! Kxg7 268 Bf8+! Kxg7 269 Kf7 270 Bf8+! Kxg7 271 Bf8+! Kxg7 272 Bf8+! Kxg7 273 Kf7 274 Bf8+! Kxg7 275 Bf8+! Kxg7 276 Bf8+! Kxg7 277 Kf7 278 Bf8+! Kxg7 279 Bf8+! Kxg7 280 Bf8+! Kxg7 281 Kf7 282 Bf8+! Kxg7 283 Bf8+! Kxg7 284 Bf8+! Kxg7 285 Kf7 286 Bf8+! Kxg7 287 Bf8+! Kxg7 288 Bf8+! Kxg7 289 Kf7 290 Bf8+! Kxg7 291 Bf8+! Kxg7 292 Bf8+! Kxg7 293 Kf7 294 Bf8+! Kxg7 295 Bf8+! Kxg7 296 Bf8+! Kxg7 297 Kf7 298 Bf8+! Kxg7 299 Bf8+! Kxg7 300 Bf8+! Kxg7 301 Kf7 302 Bf8+! Kxg7 303 Bf8+! Kxg7 304 Bf8+! Kxg7 305 Kf7 306 Bf8+! Kxg7 307 Bf8+! Kxg7 308 Bf8+! Kxg7 309 Kf7 310 Bf8+! Kxg7 311 Bf8+! Kxg7 312 Bf8+! Kxg7 313 Kf7 314 Bf8+! Kxg7 315 Bf8+! Kxg7 316 Bf8+! Kxg7 317 Kf7 318 Bf8+! Kxg7 319 Bf8+! Kxg7 320 Bf8+! Kxg7 321 Kf7 322 Bf8+! Kxg7 323 Bf8+! Kxg7 324 Bf8+! Kxg7 325 Kf7 326 Bf8+! Kxg7 327 Bf8+! Kxg7 328 Bf8+! Kxg7 329 Kf7 330 Bf8+! Kxg7 331 Bf8+! Kxg7 332 Bf8+! Kxg7 333 Kf7 334 Bf8+! Kxg7 335 Bf8+! Kxg7 336 Bf8+! Kxg7 337 Kf7 338 Bf8+! Kxg7 339 Bf8+! Kxg7 340 Bf8+! Kxg7 341 Kf7 342 Bf8+! Kxg7 343 Bf8+! Kxg7 344 Bf8+! Kxg7 345 Kf7 346 Bf8+! Kxg7 347 Bf8+! Kxg7 348 Bf8+! Kxg7 349 Kf7 350 Bf8+! Kxg7 351 Bf8+! Kxg7 352 Bf8+! Kxg7 353 Kf7 354 Bf8+! Kxg7 355 Bf8+! Kxg7 356 Bf8+! Kxg7 357 Kf7 358 Bf8+! Kxg7 359 Bf8+! Kxg7 360 Bf8+! Kxg7 361 Kf7 362 Bf8+! Kxg7 36

Union seeks ban on AGM proxy voting

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

COMPANY law in Britain needs to be changed to prevent proxy shareholder voting, the GMB general union declared at its annual conference in Brighton yesterday. The call came as the union announced a shortlist of companies against which it intends to take legal action over unauthorised political donations.

The steps announced by the GMB follow the row over shareholders' votes at last week's British Gas annual meeting, and are the furthest any organisation has yet gone towards legal moves against institutional investors.

John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB, said that events at British Gas, at which large shareholder proxies were used to vote down moves

not to reappoint Cedric Brown, the chief executive, after the row over his 75 per cent pay rise, were the clearest evidence that the power of institutional shareholders is being "widely abused". Acknowledging parallels that have been drawn between trade unions' block votes, which are now being reformed, and the block voting of institutional shareholders, Mr Edmonds said: "We are familiar with block-voting. But we block-vote on the basis of individual people. We are less familiar with people block-voting in their own interests on the basis of shares."

Insisting that block and proxy shareholder voting was in urgent need of reform, Mr Edmonds made it clear the union would be pressing a

future Labour government to introduce new legal measures requiring votes at company AGMs to be cast by shareholders themselves rather than on their behalf by directors of the company.

He said: "The practice of handing millions of votes to company directors should be made illegal." In addition, the votes of all shareholders should be recorded and open to public scrutiny, as union block votes were.

The GMB, which will now ask its 1,500 representatives on companies' occupational pension schemes to push for clear policy decisions at company AGMs — especially in the privatised utilities — on such issues as top executives' pay, confirmed it is to take legal action against company donations to political parties that have not been authorised by shareholder ballots.

After consulting extensively with lawyers, the union is to mount a large-scale legal campaign on the issue, drawing in financial and other support from other trade unions.

GMB leaders will next month name companies against which it is to bring legal action. Those on its shortlist could include a construction company, with the GMB holding shares in Taylor Woodrow and Tarmac; a multinational — GMB holds shares in RTZ and BAT; an engineering firm — the GMB has shares in Cable & Wireless, GKN, Vickers and BAE; and a financial services or retail company — it has holdings in GRE, Asda, Boots and Legal & General.

After studying companies' articles of association, GMB leaders and the union's lawyers are convinced that they have any specific sanction for political donations beyond vague statements of aims, and that few if any have had their political donations authorised by shareholders. Mr Edmonds said: "Our campaign will expose the Square Mile mandarins who control billions of pounds and wield enormous power... We were promised a share-owning democracy but what we have is a backroom autocracy."



Supermarket shelves were made ready over the weekend to cope with the bigger crop from British growers.

Field day for British strawberry

By NEIL BENNETT

THE strawberry season began today with signs that it will be an outstanding success for British growers and a boost to the balance of trade. Britain's growers have seen off foreign competition in the past two years with new growing techniques and new varieties. As a result, supermarkets such as Tesco are now stocking home-grown strawberries instead of Spanish or French rivals.

Sales of British strawberries rose 26 per cent to £73 million between 1991 and 1993. Foreign imports have fallen 12 per cent over the same period. This year, turnover of British produce is expected to rise to a new record.

The success is attributable to large growers such as Plantman in Suffolk, which have increased greenhouse acreage to ensure the crop reaches the shops early in the year to compete with imports. Supermarkets spent the weekend preparing their shelves for the influx.

Minimum wage 'will not threaten jobs'

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE political battle over the likely impact of a minimum wage will receive fresh ammunition tomorrow with the publication of a survey showing that 86 per cent of personnel chiefs believe a pay floor of £4.10 an hour would not cost jobs in their organisation.

But the survey, carried out for Personnel Today magazine, showed that, even so, a small majority believed it would cost jobs in the wider economy.

Hostility to the minimum wage varies considerably according to the type of organisation, the study found. Overall, 57 per cent of personnel chiefs at the 325 companies and public-sector bodies surveyed said they thought a minimum wage would cost jobs across industry as a whole.

But fears of job losses were much greater among managers in the private sector, especially in transport and

manufacturing. Personnel chiefs in the public services had fewer fears: 65 per cent believed a minimum wage would not lead to job cuts in the wider economy.

More than 40 per cent of personnel heads in retailing and banking also suggested that there would not be an adverse impact.

The Confederation of British Industry, the employers' organisation, has argued strongly that introducing a minimum wage of £4.10 an hour, the rate favoured by trade unions, is undesirable.

Sir Bryan Nicholson, the confederation's president, said that although this was "superficially attractive," if the Government wanted to intervene in labour markets, "it would be better to give direct subsidies to employers."

Meanwhile, a new survey of the key April pay round shows that basic increases have been held at 3 per cent, dampening fears that an inflationary spiral may be triggered by rising wage settlements.

The survey, from the Industrial Relations Services agency, shows that average pay settlements have been stable for five months, and still remain below the level of inflation.

More than 60 per cent of companies are handing employees higher settlements than a year ago, but pressure remains subdued.

Pay rises are even smaller in the public sector, where they average around 2.5 per cent. April is one of the busiest months of the year for pay settlements, with about a third of all companies fixing salary increases for staff at the start of the financial year.

Despite the low level of settlements, the Industrial Relations Services agency sounds a warning. "If inflationary pressure continues to increase, it is likely that pay rises will eventually ratchet up," it said.

Majority of UK firms hit by fraud

By OUR BUSINESS STAFF

MORE than two-thirds of British companies admit they have suffered fraud, and more than half believe it is still going on, according to a survey from Control Risks, the international security consultant, and Security Gazette.

The survey lays most of the blame for fraud with company employees. Sixty per cent of frauds are perpetrated by management, with middle management the most common offenders, according to the survey.

The report, one of the most substantial surveys of fraud in recent years, shows the vulnerability of companies to white-collar crime. Nigel Blackman, editor of Security Gazette, said: "In the past decade most organisations have made efforts to improve their physical security, but our report indicates that not enough has been done to prevent fraud."

Paradoxically, the report shows that 85 per cent of British businessmen think their company's fraud control mechanisms are effective, even though 51 per cent of those who have experienced fraud before think it may still be taking place. And 45 per cent think fraud is likely to take place in their firm in the future.

"The fact that management is responsible for 60 per cent of fraud is not a surprise," said John Conyngham, head of Control Risks' corporate resolution division. "In most cases, they have the opportunity and the means to decide deliberately."

Of the fraud, 30 per cent takes place in finance departments, where even relatively junior managers have access to substantial funds and can often devise ways of diverting them to their own pockets. Control Risks advises companies to keep a close watch on the lifestyles of their employees for any signs of unusual extravagance.

The report believes companies are still too relaxed. Mr Conyngham said: "The inherent contradiction in these results clearly demonstrates a 'not in my back yard' feeling. There is a clear indication that companies, while willing to acknowledge the scale of the problem, are reluctant to face up to the lack of safeguards in their own organisations."

Outcry expected on power profits

By PHILIP FANGALOS

A STORM of protest from politicians and consumer groups is expected this week when Seeboard, the electricity company serving the South East, starts the industry's reporting season by announcing bumper profits and a big rise in its dividend payout.

Seeboard starts the privatised electricity companies' reporting season tomorrow, with analysts predicting that dividend increases from companies in the electricity sector will range from 20 to 25 per cent over the coming weeks.

The City expects Seeboard's final pre-tax profits to advance by about 17 per cent to between £147 million and £154 million, against £131.7 million previously, while the total dividend is forecast to rise by nearer 20 per cent, more

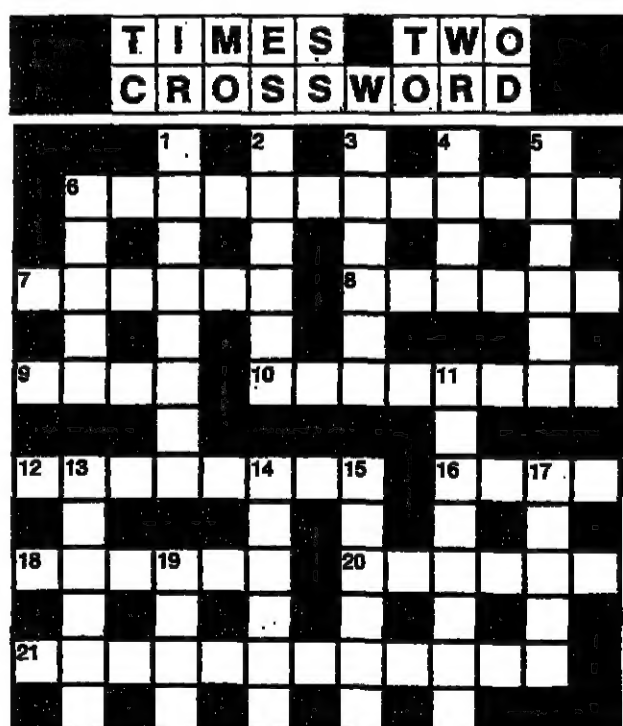
then five times the rate of inflation.

The electricity companies have prospered since privatisation, reaping huge rewards from cost reductions and the financial benefits of widespread job cuts.

But consumer groups have voiced vociferous complaints as the power firms continue to turn in bumper profits, boost their dividend payouts and pay generous rewards to directors instead of cutting their prices further or giving substantial rebates to their customers.

Further news is also awaited on how Britain's twelve regional electricity companies will allocate their shares in the National Grid Company, which distributes power over its network of cables and pylons.

Companies, page 39



No 487

ACROSS

- 6 Take immoderate action (2,2,3)
- 7 At a sloping angle (6)
- 8 Fugitive criminal (6)
- 9 Dinner signal; medal (4)
- 10 Recreates a past event (2-6)
- 12 Plain yarn; unsophisticated (8)
- 16 Venture (4)
- 18 Gastropod; clings tightly (6)
- 20 Good-looking (6)
- 21 Without inhibition or check (12)

DOWN

- 1 Get behind in march, race (8)
- 2 Trojan hero; browbeat (6)
- 3 Superfluous (6)
- 4 Torn; hire (4)
- 5 One paying (4, 6)
- 6 Relish (5)
- 11 Bitter feelings (8)
- 13 Bulbs; the competent know theirs (6)
- 14 Starchy tuber (6)
- 15 Drink of gods, bees (6)
- 17 Of sound construction (5)
- 19 Writer of verse (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 486

ACROSS: 1 Vanessa, 5 To/fo, 8 Ordeal, 9 Exodus, 10 Sentry-go, 12 Hope, 13 Constance, 17 Zola, 18 Entrench, 20 Fondue, 21 Sister, 23 Leer, 24 Nanette.
DOWN: 2 Agreed, 3 Eve, 4 Sally, 5 Toothache, 6 Grumpy, 7 Fedora, 11 Two-hander, 14 Skewed, 15 Morose, 16 Accept, 19 Tessa, 22 Sue.

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Norman sitting on £2.3m profit

By SARAH BAGNALL



Norman: likely to hold

ARCHIE NORMAN, chief executive at Asda, the supermarket group, could take a £2.3 million instant profit any day he chooses if he decides to exercise more than 4 million share options he has been granted since he joined the retailer in 1991.

The news comes as it emerged over the weekend that the Greenbury Committee on executive pay is likely to call for share options to be abolished and replaced by long-term bonuses. Last week Boots became the first company in the FT-SE 100 index to abolish share options, prompted by Sir Michael Angus, its chairman, a member of the Greenbury Committee.

Mr Norman, 41, gained the

right to exercise his options over 4,625,047 Asda shares on March 31. They are exercisable at 36p a share, compared with Asda's closing share price on Friday of 86p. If he chooses to subscribe for Asda shares now he would make a 50p profit on each of the 4.6 million shares. Phil Cox, finance director, could make a £1 million profit if he exercises 2 million of his options on the same terms.

However, both Mr Norman and Mr Cox have until March 4, 2002 before the options expire and, given that Asda's share price is on an upward track, they are likely to wait before exercising their rights.

Mr Norman, a former partner at McKinsey & Co, the

management consultant, and finance director at Kingfisher, joined Asda in 1991 when it was seen as one of the walking wounded in the grocery trade. It was struggling under £1 billion of debt, old stores, capital expenditure lagging its rivals and inadequate systems. Reflecting this, its shares dropped from a ten-year high of 178p, in July 1987, to a low of 23p in August 1992. Since then the shares have clambered back to 86p. Mr Norman, educated at Charterhouse and Cambridge, is the driving force behind Asda's turnaround. Annual pre-tax profits have risen from £37 million in the year to April 30, 1992 to £201 million in the year to April 30, 1994.

Big Six accountants pull away

By ROBERT BRUCE

BRITAIN'S second division of accountancy firms are losing ground to the "Big Six" international firms, according to figures to be published today.

The annual figures, leaked at the weekend, show most firms struggling for fee-income growth. The main exception was BDO Stoy Hayward, with a 22.7 per cent rise to £95.7 million, after it picked up regional offices when the main offices of Binder Hamlyn joined Arthur Andersen.

Other firms, like Grant Thornton, trod water with fees rising this year matching income falls reported last year. Kidson Impey is reporting a 2.8 per cent fall in income to £54.1 million, despite the improving economic climate.

For the Big Six firms, which are due to report today, much

will depend on how far the dismal growth figures for the previous year have been transformed as the economy moves out of recession. In the 1993-94 figures, Coopers & Lybrand and KPMG, the top two firms, could only manage 1.3 per cent and 1.4 per cent growth rates. Unless they

have managed significant growth they may lose the top spot to Arthur Andersen.

Andersen produced a phenomenal growth figure of 11.7 per cent in their 1993-94 figures and moved past Ernst & Young into the third place slot last year. In the past year, Andersen has almost merged

with Binder Hamlyn, which in 1993-94 would have given the two firms a combined fees figure of £540 million. This would have left them not far behind Coopers & Lybrand, the number one firm, on £560 million. If Andersen's growth rate over the past year has been much faster than Cooper's, it may become the top firm on today's figures.

The figures for all the top firms are also expected to show considerable growth in tax work which has expanded rapidly over the past year. "Tax," one senior partner said last week, "is booming."

The other area of interest will be in how far the top six firms are pulling away. Last year, Touche Ross, smallest of the Big Six firms, was still pulling in more than three times the fees of Grant Thornton, the next firm on the list.

Accountancy firms results 1993/94			
Firm	Fee income (£m)	Chng 1994/95 (%)	Fees per partner (£000)
Grant Thornton	114.0	6.1	535
BDO Stoy Hayward	95.7	22.7	418
Pannell Kerr Forster	80.1	0.5	474
Clark Whitehill	57.5	1.8	249
Kidson Impey	54.1	-2.8	381
Moore Stephens	44.8	1.6	312
Robson Rhodes	40.6	10.9	580
Neville Russell	33.8	1.2	386
Moore Rowland	31.4	1.7	334
Baker Tilly	29.1	2.1	434

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